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TOLEDO WEEKLY BLADE

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Poetry.

A PSALM OF ART.

If you want to make a fashionable poster
For to advertise a novel or a girl,
You can do it, sir, and be a sniffing hoaster
That the selling is a matter of your skill:
You must draw a dame with awful angularity
In a landscape that's geometry run mad;
Give her frock a sweep with long particularity
And a pattern that no raiment ever had.

N. B.

Oh, the sky it must be green, and the tree it must be blue,
And a lark must look a claret-colored bubble,
And a foreground must be found
That can be a far background;
But a fashionable poster's worth the trouble!

Pray be careful that you're never true to nature!
Pray be wary lest you're ever true to art!
Not a touch of beauty to a human feature!
If you dare do that, my boy, you'll break my heart!
Make a purple sun against a solmon mountain;
Paint a torrent every wave of which is brown;
Spread a figure in the middle, wrestling with a tall horse fiddle.
All the colors ranged in strata on her gown.

N. B.

Oh, your rocks must be triangular, your clouds must all be square,
And a garden must be rank with crazy lilies,
And raw red and blue and yellow must be jostling each his fellow;
And you thus have art for Trade, and Cash and Sillies.

—Harper's Magazine.

For The Blade.

THE WOMAN'S FAITH.

"If I but touch His garment's hem
I shall be whole," the woman said;
And timid through the crowd she came
To have, unseen, the blessing shed.
But lo! the Master turned Him in the press
And said, "Who touched me? For I feel
A virtue gone." Shen then, with fearfulness:
"I touched thee, Lord; the touch did heal."

Like her, too, Lord, I fain would touch,
For healing power, thy garment's fold;
But that I may not, nor so much
As see Thee pass my pathway cold,
Yet well I know thy love divine
Will heal, 'mid alleluias high;
Will feel a fainting touch like mine,
Will heal and save me when I cry—
"Lord, it was I!"

—Grace Darling Lee.

For The Blade.

CREATION'S CHORUS.

The chorus of creation is ringing in my ears;
I listen, filled with rapture, to the singing of the spheres,
The heavenly worlds that shine above portray God's love to me;
My heart is singing praises for his mercy full and free.

The chorus of the universe is faint perchance at times,
But rises grand, harmonious, in most transcendent chimes,
'Tis only when our ears are dulled by more terrestial things,
We fail to hear the harmony the whole creation sings.

—Mrs. A. P. Jarvis.

Miscellany.

"JOHNNY ON THE SPOT."

A New Phrase Which Has Become Very Popular in Town Nowadays.

Current additions to contemporary slang find their way into popularity by odd means. An expression once made and often repeated gets finally a sort of vogue, especially if it seems peculiar, says the New York Sun. Such an expression, popular for a long time, was "out of sight," though there was no especial significance to the phrase when distorted to cover a variety of cases. A person was said to be "out of sight" when, for any reason, he or she was superior to other persons in any particular, and a man might be "out of sight" because he was less well dressed than his poorly attired associates, and a woman was said to be "out of sight" because her apparel was a good deal brighter and more stylish than that of her associates. Similarly the word "nit," recently so popular, has been swerved from its original meaning to serve many other purposes. It is of German-American origin, being a corruption of "nicht," and among Germans it is not an unusual thing to state an affirmative proposition by first stating the negative proposition and then adding the word "nicht."

The grammatical genesis of "Johnny on the spot" cannot be traced very clearly, but the phrase certainly originated from the longer and less expressive one, "Johnny is always on the spot when wanted," or "Johnny on the spot" is a man or youth who may be relied upon to be at a certain stated place when wanted and on whose assured appearance confident expectation may be based. It is not sufficient that an alert and trustworthy individual, to be thought deserving of the name "Johnny on the spot," should restrict his beneficent activity to the matter of being at a certain place when needed. He must, in addition, render such service and attend to such business when there as the occasion may require, and such a "Johnny" must be on the spot not merely to attend to the business of others, but also to look after his own. Hence an individual who is prompt and far-seeing alive to his own interests, and keenly sensible of means for promoting his own advantage, is "Johnny on the spot." The expression is, to some extent, a variation or rather a continuation of that other phrase "he gets there."

The expression, "Johnny on the spot," has come into popularity very suddenly, and it will probably go out of popularity after some pretty hard usage in negro minstrelsy, variety theatres, campaign speeches, and cheap plays, in an equally unconventional way, but until a successor is found it is likely to be in pretty general use hereabouts.

THE BUCKET SHOP.

A Woman Who Wanted Large Lots of Buckets, but No Grain.

A well-known citizen who resides in Northwest Washington is a patron of a certain bucket shop, says the Washington Star. His wife was informed of the fact and accused him of it with so much directness that he could not deny it.

"You made $200 on buckets in some shop, didn't you?" she demanded to know.

"Certainly, dear. You see the war in Cuba creates a great demand for buckets and there is a place where you can give your orders and sell them again at a profit."

Nothing more was said, but the wife concluded to make some money on buckets and not let her husband know it. In some way she learned the location of the bucket shop, and going down town told who she was, and said:

"I want $100 worth of buckets. The same kind my husband bought."

"It is a little risky to-day, madam," said the proprietor, who did not want to explain the operations of the place.

"I don't care," she urged. "Here's the money. I'll come after the buckets to-morrow."

The next day she appeared and was informed that the buckets had been bought and sold at $100 advance, but that the supply was exhausted and they were going into the wheat and corn business until more could be manufactured.

"I don't want any wheat or corn," she said, "but ain't it mean, I can't buy any more buckets?" And the husband congratulates himself on how he succeeded in getting the bucket shop proprietor to stop his wife's dealings without revealing their nature, while she is a spring hat and a dress ahead.

Precept and Example.

Parishioner—Your sermon yesterday morning, doctor, on the necessity of purifying our politics meets my hearty approval. To-morrow, by the way, we hold our primaries. We are making an earnest effort this year to elect a decent alderman, and we need the help of every good citizen in the ward. I will call for you with my carriage, at any time that will be convenient. How would 9 o'clock in the morning——.

The Rev. Dr. Lastly—Call for me? What for?

Parishioner—To go to the polling place to vote for——.

The Rev. Dr. Lastly—What! Let myself down into the dirty pool of politics? Countenance by my presence the ruffianism and vulgarity of the polls? Brother Millsap, you grieve me beyond my power to express.—Chicago Tribune.

All That Was Claimed.

"Why so sad, Wilbur?"

"Lost my wheel. Bought it from a man who said it would go like the wind—and it did. Went like the deuce for an hour, and then died down completely."—Harper's Bazar.

Unfortunately Said.

"You see, I was engaged to my wife without ever having seen her."

"Yes; that is quite evident."—Exchange.

Would Expect Him.

Watts—So you don't look on young Sharpe as a coming man, don't you?

Potts—I would if I was in charge of the penitentiary.—Indianapolis Journal.

THE VARYING DATE OF EASTER.

It Is Determined by Calculations Based on Arbitrary Rules.

The annual changing of the date of Easter is a puzzle to many. In 1894 it was on March 25, and in 1895 on April 14. This year it will be on April 5, next Sunday, and next year it will be on April 18. Some years it may be as early as March 21, and in others as late as April 25, a period of five weeks intervening between the earliest and latest dates on which the sacred festival may be held. Since 1862 the earliest date of Easter was March 25, in 1883 and 1894. Within that number of years it has only once been on April 25, and that was in 1886. Easter is always the first Sunday after the full moon which happens upon or next after March 21, and if the full moon falls on Sunday, March 21, Easter will be on the following Sunday, March 28. It is arbitrarily ruled that the paschal full moon shall never fall later than April 18, although a consistent method of scientific computation and instrumental determination would make it sometimes fall on April 19.

The name Easter, like the names of the days of the week, is a survival from the Old Teutonic mythology. It is derived from Eostre, or Ostara, the Anglo-Saxon Goddess of Spring, in whose honor the ancients held a festival every April. Seven movable feasts depend on Easter for the date of their annual recurrence. They are: Septuagesima Sunday, Ash Wednesday, Palm Sunday and Good Friday, which precede it, and Ascension Day, Whitsunday and Trinity Sunday, which follow it.

The returns of Easter were originally regulated by the calendar of Judea, in which the months were conterminous with the revolutions of the moon. A mean lunation being about twenty-nine and one-half days long, twelve lunar months, or a lunar year, fall about eleven days short of a solar year, so that the beginning of the Jewish year goes backward on the natural year about eleven days annually, and requires an intercalary month to be interpolated in the third, sixth, ninth, eleventh and fourteenth years, and so on. These conditions caused much dissension between the Gentile churches of Italy and those of the East, the former wishing to have the festival occur on a date to be determined on a different basis of calculation, while the others desired it to be held on the day of the Jewish Passover. The Council of Nicaea, after long discussion, settled the dispute in A. D. 325 by issuing a decree that Easter should be on the first Sunday after the fourteenth day of that lunation whose fourteenth day falls not earlier than March 21. To compute the date on which Easter may fall in different years, one must be familiar with Dominical letters, "Golden Numbers," paschal moons, etc., and then patiently solve an abstruse astronomical problem. The easiest way to find the date is to consult the calendar of the Protestant Episcopal church, which contains tables which give the desired information for a long series of years.

BLACK DIAMONDS.

Brazil Exports More Diamonds Than Any Other Country.

Although the greatest diamond mines in the world are in South Africa, Brazil exports more diamonds to that part than anywhere else on earth. The explanation is easy. They are black diamonds and not of the kind used for jewelry. The place of their greatest utility is underground in mines. South Africa does not produce them, but it could not well get along without them.

Black diamond is the hardest substance known. Its utility has only been realized for about twenty years, and improvements are constantly being made in it. The rough stones are taken and split by machinery, in a way that was unknown until recently. The split must follow the grain. If it does not the stone will be wasted. Each stone is split into cubes of different sizes. The cubes are then welded into mining drills if they are to be used for boring. The steel is cast about the diamond so that it cannot get loose. In the same way nearly all diamond saws are made. They are circular saws. Every tooth is a black diamond cube. It is fastened on when the steel portion of the instrument is in a molten state.

The attempt to make these stones artificially has proven a failure in every instance. The cost is greater than the market price of the Brazilian diamond.

Black diamonds weigh ordinarily less than 100 carats, ranging all the way down to half a carat. The largest in existence was found only a short time ago. Its weight being 320 carats. The diamond was sold to a museum for £8,000.—London Paper.

This is how Charley felt after visiting a poster show.

TWENTY MILLION STARS.

That Come Within Range of the Astronomer's Telescope.

Within the twenty-four hours which elapse from one sunrise until another, the astronomers of the world have not less than 20,000,000 stars within the range of their powerful telescopes, which to-day point out in all directions toward the blue canopy which overhangs the earth. These bright shining, silvery disks are not infinitesimal points of light, as they were formerly supposed to be, but each is now known to be a burning central sun, surrounded with its own colony of planets, each of these 20,000,000 communities of the skies having its allotted part to perform in the economy of nature. When we consider that the nearest of these is 250,000 times as far away from us as our own light and life giver, and that each of those planetary colonies is from 10,000,000 to 500,000,000 miles from some other family of swinging worlds, we begin to get some light conception of the grandeur and magnificence of the universe. Another thought in this connection: Each of these 20,000,000 suns is known to be moving somewhere through illimitable space, taking its brood of worlds with it, some of them traveling upward of 200,000 miles an hour. It is such stupendous facts as these that have caused the writer to often remark that no brain can conceive of what is meant by space, universe or eternity.—St. Louis Republic.

Nothing New.

Sock—Wonderful new invention those X rays.

Buskin—New invention, quotha? Sir, they are as old as the Bard of Avon. Doth not Hamlet say to his queen-mother:

"Come, come and sit you down! You shall not budge.
You go not till I set you up a glass
Where you may see the inmost part of you!"

—Town Topics.

A Change of Base.

Chollie Rakeleigh—There goes the last $5 bill I have in the world.

Tottie Pinktoes (coldly)—Then I've no further use for you.

Chollie Rakeleigh—But I've got quite a roll of tens and twenties left.

Tottie Pinktoes (warmly)—Darling!—Town Topics.

Circular Charity.

Sympathizer—Give me $10 for Mrs. C——, she is very poor.

Philanthropist—Here it is; but what is she doing?

Sympathizer—Mending my clothes.

Philanthropist—What do you give her?

Sympathizer—Your $10.—Town Topics.

A Stand-Off.

She—Do you believe Friday is an unlucky day?

He—I used to, but I don't now.

"Why?"

"Because I was married on a Friday."

"Indeed! Well, what caused you to change your mind?"

"I got my divorce on a Friday."—Yonkers Statesman.

LATE INVENTIONS.

DEVICES FOR WHICH PATENTS HAVE BEEN GRANTED.

The Luminous Cat to Frighten Rats—Toy Cow That Can Be Milked.

At the patent office in Washington new devices are received every day that would puzzle the ordinary human being to operate or understand, says the Chicago Times-Herald. Some of them are useful and some are not. One of the useful articles on which a patent was issued recently is an electrical oven. It is composed of a metallic box-like structure wound about with wires, asbestos being interposed between the oven and the first layer of wires and between the successive layers of wires. The whole is surrounded by a protecting casing— a suitable opening being left for the introduction of articles of food. The inventor claims that if a turkey or any other article of food were placed in the oven and the electric current turned into the wires the turkey would cook from the center outward. In other words, the cooking would commence within the body of the turkey and proceed gradually outward until the skin would brown. The only explanation given is that the oven is so wound with electric coils that the lines of the different magnetic fields all converge at the center, thereby so disturbing the normal conditions as to generate heat at that point. The heat is also generated by the usual resistance of the wire to the passage of the electric current.

Of a newly patented combination plow and cannon the inventors say: "This plow is constructed in the usual manner except that the beam, which is of metal, is bored and formed into a cannon. As a piece of light ordnance its capacity may vary from a projectile of one to one of three pounds. Its utility in the twofold capacity is unquestionable, especially when used in border localities. As a means of defense in repelling surprises and skirmishing attacks on those engaged in peaceful avocations it is unrivaled, as it can be immediately brought into action by disengaging the team. In times of danger it may be used in the field, ready charged with its deadly missiles or ball or grape."

The principal feature of "an eccentric bicycle" is the rear wheel. This, to gain leverage, the inventor claims, is journaled eccentrically—that is, with its axle out of the center of the wheel. The consequence of this peculiar construction is that the rider rises and falls as he rides, with a sweeping, gliding motion similar to the ocean's swell. If he tires of the long, steady swell he can get a short, choppy sea by increasing his speed.

There is also a dog bicycle, which, in construction, is slightly larger than usual. The rider's seat is placed over the rear wheel. The front wheel is of sufficient size to accommodate two good-sized dogs and is built on the order of a treadmill. It much resembles the wheel of a squirrel's cage. The dogs are chained within this wheel, and in their endeavors to run forward turn the wheel, at least so the inventor explains.

People who now tolerate mice or rats in the house certainly must be blind to the fact that a luminous cat, which costs little to secure and nothing to keep, has been invented, and can be placed in any dark corner or nook to scare away such pests. This cat is struck or stamped from sheet metal or other like material. It is painted over with phosphorus, so that it shines in the dark like a cat of flame.

The new aerial railway consists of a cable anchored at each end and extending, say, from Philadelphia to New York. A balloon, fully charged with gas, is provided with a roller or grooved wheel pendent therefrom by suitable ropes or rods. This roller or wheel is adapted to fit upon and roll along the under side of the cable as the balloon passes forward by the action of the wind or propelling devices.

People may expect, in the future, upon entering a friend's parlor and taking a seat, to be greeted with the strains of some popular opera. At least, this is made possible by a recently patented invention for a musical chair. This chair has the appearance of an ordinary one, and to all intents and purposes is, except that under the seat is concealed a music box. The seat proper is flexible, so that, when sat upon, it will be slightly depressed. This depression operates a catch and releases the drum of the music box.

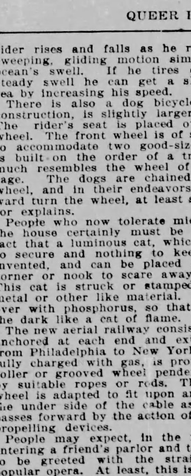
A steam man is an intricate piece of machinery. His legs are operated by suitable levers, cranks and steam cylinders so that when hitched to a carriage he has every appearance of an ordinary man drawing a carriage while dragging his heavy burden along the street. The levers, cranks and other parts are, of course, hidden by suitable clothing or livery.

The cannon motor, to the mind of one inventor, is the ideal method of generating power. This motor consists of an endless chain carrying teeth and projections, the chain being supported on suitable wheels for transmitting power. The power is derived from two cannon arranged on opposite sides of the machine and fired alternately against devices that engage the projections on the chain, one cannon being reloaded while the other is discharged.

An automatic gallows is the subject of a recent patent. With this device no special person can be pointed out as the man who sprung the trap sending the unfortunate convict to his death. The device is set and the trap is sprung by a time catch.

The body of a new toy cow is formed of either wood or metal and is an exact representation of an ordinary Jersey as she stands while being milked. A suitable tank is arranged within the body and can be filled with milk from the outside. This tank is provided with suitable nipples, which are operated in exactly the same manner as in milking the real everyday article. This movement of milking the Jersey also transmits motion to her pivoted jaws, and it thus appears that she is chewing her cud while being milked.

QUEER INVENTIONS RECENTLY PATENTED.



Provocative of Sympathy.

Mose—Majah White am de meanes' man I eber knowed.

Pete—So I heah.

Mose—It am a fac'. Look at dem skinny chickings ob his'n. He actshally dean' gib dem nuf to eat!—Town Topics.

WHEN BABY REALLY SLEEPS.

Horrible Suspense Broken by the Welcome Sound.

Baby sleeps. Beautiful thought. Yet there is but little of the hope that springs eternal in the human breast in the heart of the faithful father, who with delirious caution sneaks softly to bed and awaits the babe's awakening, says Judge. As he lets fall his head upon the pillow he has a painful premonition, as usual, that baby will, as usual, awake the sleeping household to listen to declamatory shrieks against the extreme impropriety of quiet and repose during the magic hours from 12 to 2.

The father's agony has begun. He thinks, "I wonder if the little chap won't sleep to-night; he ought to."

"By George! I wish he'd really sleep on like this. I might doze off myself if I thought he would."

"S'pose the little fellow shouldn't wake up again till"—(as the baby turns and gives a spasmodic snort)—"Great Scott! I hope he doesn't wake—that was a close shave." And the sire of the sleeper presses down upon his startled, jumping heart.

"I guess he'll sleep after all; his breathing is pretty regular."

"Oh, hum, I'm tired. • • • • That child ought to sleep all night soon; he's getting older. • • • He's all right; I wish I was asleep myself."

"Hum, hum, yaw"—(as baby raps his fist against the side of the crib)—"Good heavens, that'll wake him sure." A long and joyous period of suspense now follows. At length the father dares to think again.

"Well, I'll try, and perhaps I can get to sleep now."

"I'm really awful sleepy—ho-hum, hum. • • • Confound it, why can't I sleep?" (Turns nervously and with forgetful violence.)

The baby—"Yah."

The baby's mother—"'S-sh! You'll wake that child."

Several minutes drag slowly by, and the miserable man, who now simply cannot go to sleep, lies in a wakeful tremor. At last, though the waiting is long, baby yells: his voice suddenly fills a waiting void. And his introductory tones proclaim the vigor and unmistakable staying qualities of the music that has come to stay.

"Thank heaven!" says the father resignedly. For it is a positive relief that the inevitable has occurred.

TABLE LINEN LORE.

Plain Damask is Considered Much Better Style Than With Designs.

Frequently handsome tablecloths are richly embroidered in white silk or tinted floss in all sorts of elaborate designs, but this is done by the skillful needlewoman of the parish church, or else in the leisure hours of the mistress of the mansion. Such a one is produced only on state occasions, and is the treasure of the linen closet.

The section of plain damask denotes a taste for quiet elegance. It is considered chic, and no weave in this respect can supplant it. The floral designs are not conventional, and mosaic patterns are seen in tea cloths, either supplying the entire decorative scheme or furnishing the border for polka-dot panels.

Irish linen damask is the most durable, that of an ecru shade is unbleached and is considered even a more advantageous buy. Shrewd shoppers purchase the out-of-date designs in a heavy quality of linen for the same price that an inferior grade in novelty patterns will bring.

No fixed rule as to what constitutes a linen outfit has been established, and the number of pieces used in laying the table depends largely upon the resources of the individual and the style kept up by the hostess. An ordinary set may be bought for $20, and an extraordinary one may cost $500 at least.

Flax has been at a premium for the last year, and the Irish peasant and the Scotch agriculturist failed to produce the expected crop last year, hence there is a rise in the price of linen.

ARTEMUS WARD.

His Views On Leap Year and Some of Its Privileges.

Editor Blade: As this is Leap Year, it calls to mind the experience of Artemus Ward. The following is taken from his "Lecture on the Mormons":

"It was Leap Year when I was there (in Utah), and seventeen young widows, the wives of a deceased Mormon, offered me their hearts and hands. I called on them one day, and, taking their soft, white hands in mine, which made eighteen hands altogether, I found them in tears, and I said, 'Why is this thus? What is the reason of this thusness?'

"They hove a sigh—seventeen sighs of different size. They said:

"'O, soon thou wilt be gonested away!'

"I told them that when I got ready to leave a place I wented.

"They said, 'Doth not like us?'

"I said, 'I doth—I doth.'

"I also said, 'I hope your intentions are honored, as I am a lone child, my parents being far—far away.'

"Then they said, 'Wilt not marry us?'

"I said, 'O, no, it can not was.'

"When they cried, 'O cruel man! This is too much! O, too much!' I told them that it was on account of the unctuousness that I declined."

BABIES—BLESS 'EM.

They Are Usually Young and Are Barefaced Creatures.

Babies are usually young. Now and again specimens may be found of twenty years and over, but such are invariably babies on their honeymoon. Real, live, unmistakable, heard-a-mile-off babies are always young. The others—the honeymoon kind—are only make-believe, and ought not to count when facts are being dealt with.

Babies have features. With a good microscope you can see a baby's nose. It has a high forehead—one that goes right over to the back of its neck. A baby's ears are put on for amusement, solely to relieve the expanse of cheek. The places where its eyebrows ought to be are there, but the eyebrows have not arrived, which gives rise to a suspicion that babies are barefaced creatures.

It has eyes, which eyes it chiefly uses to express astonishment—evoked, no doubt, by the antics and arrogance of those about. It has a mouth, too, which it uses for putting its hands and feet into, together with keys, pencils, coins, pieces of string and other odds and ends that it may find lying about. A baby's mouth is by far the most useful of its possessions.

Babies wear clothes. The chief object aimed at in dressing a baby is to lose the baby among the clothes. If you have a foot and a half or two feet of baby you will require from forty or fifty yards of clothes to dress it properly. The reason for this is that every baby is the best baby that ever was born, and the fact must be emphasized. Besides, somebody might wish to steal it; and in that case the longer he had to look for it the greater would be the chance of catching him.

Specific Directions.

"I don't think you quite grasp the possibilities of the part," said the manager to the leading lady. "You know that eighteen years are supposed to have elapsed between the first and second acts."

"Yes."

"Well, you should look older, after that time."

"I suppose if I have to, I——"

"And act younger."—Indianapolis Journal.

Making Progress.

Miss Young (enthusiastically)—Oh, Miss Timer is so lively, so intellectual! Not in her first youth, you know, but——

Miss Stager—No; but from what I've learned about her I should think she must be well on in her second childhood.—Judge.

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Our Serial Story.

THE MYSTERY OF AVENUE D.

WRITTEN EXPRESSLY FOR THE BLADE BY DAVID LOWRY.

CHAPTER XXVII.—THE TOAST.

One spectator of the scenes enacted in front of Big Jake's saloon grew faint and sick.

Fitch, who was afraid to approach the prisoners, yet dare not conceal himself in the hotel stood midway between the hotel and saloon.

When the bodies dangled in the air he grew deathly sick. Hurrying to the hotel he called for a glass of whisky. The bar tender was absent—a frightened servant girl put her head in at the door—Fitch darted around the end of the bar and poured himself a tumbler full of whisky. He gulped it down with trembling hands, then sat down and wiped his face then beaded with cold sweat.

He trembled—a horrible, sickening chill palsied him for the moment.

"This won't do," he said aloud, "I must brace up."

He turned towards the door; no one was near; he had the bar to himself.

"I must brace up." But he felt himself trembling more than ever as he said it. He passed his hands over his face to shut out the memory of the horrible tragedy he had witnessed. But the long legs of Fox and the writhing shoulders of the figure beside Fox stood out plainer than ever.

Fitch groaned in fear—his hands shook in spite of all efforts to regain self-control. He resolved to go to his room and lie down. But what if he were missed—his absence at such a time might subject him to suspicion—he dare not retire; he must brace up—he must not betray unusual emotion; to do that would simply place himself at the mercy of Maxwell of whom he now had an unspeakable sickening dread.

At the end of an eternity seemingly, footsteps approached; the crowd were straggling back to the main street; soon he would hear the comments of the rabble; they would throng the hotel repeating phrases and—commenting in their course way upon the incidents attending the tragedy—bring back words, looks, actions Fitch wanted to banish from his mind forever.

Two men entered the barroom laughing; Fitch did not hear what they said; his brain was clouded; something—a dull weight seemingly—pressed his brain; his thoughts came slowly; it required an effort to think.

"Have something, Mr. Fitch?"

Fitch rose mechanically.

"Certainly Mr.—ah——"

"Did you ever see a pluckier man than Jack?"

The Fitch heard dimly the words "Grit," "Sand," "Backbone," and "Nerve" in every tone of voice and inflection, all the while he was asking himself if in all the wide world there was another man who felt such a horror of death as himself.

"How!" and the man who was paying for the drinks smacked his lips. "That's the third hanging I've seen in two months—I'd better begin to keep a record of them."

"But you never seen a man die as game as Jack."

"No, I never did—nor nobody else—didn't he give hell at the last?"

"Didn't seem to care no more than I do about taking a drink."

"The cheek of the devil—telling us how to do it!"

"Not one man in a thousand could keep it up."

"There's not one in a million could keep up that way."

"Where were you Fitch?"

Fitch started.

"Me? O, I was there with the rest—I saw it all."

"Do you know," said Fitch's companion, "I thought once or twice Fox was looking for some one—I had my eye on Fox all the time."

"Here too," chimed in another," and Easy Jack looked around, too. In a curious way, don't you remember—while Bill was picking out the jury."

"Yes—I was noticing that time—seemed like as if Jack was expecting to see a friend. It wouldn't been healthy for the friend just then."

Fitch felt sick—his hands were trembling again.

"Have another with me Mr. Fitch. You are one of the men interested in this. You are a capitalist—and you capitalists don't want to keep people out of Colorado—you want to bring them in."

"Very true—how." And Fitch gulped another glass of whisky down.

If he could only escape from the crowd—but that was impossible.

He must "brace up;" he must manifest sympathy with his associates; there was nothing for it but to drink or pretend to drink; in that way he would avoid remark.

So the poor coward stood trying to "brace himself up" before the bar; while the crowd came and went he maintained his place there simply because he dared not make a move of any kind lest he might encounter Maxwell.

He felt that that was more than nature could endure—he would be sure to yield—he would cry out—he would expose his condition on the instant. He was saying this to himself when Alexander and Maxwell entered the bar room together. They advanced to a place near Fitch. Maxwell was trying to attract the barkeeper's attention when Fitch experienced a revulsion of feeling.

"Have one with me now, gentlemen," he said suddenly.

Fitch's eyes swept the room, encountering Maxwell and his companion.

"Have a drink with us gentlemen—us men who wear cuffs and collars can't go back on each other."

The crowd laughed at the jest.

Maxwell looked fixedly at Fitch; a great change had come over him, but whether it boded ill or good—Maxwell was unable to guess.

"Best assent," Alexander whispered.

"Of course," Maxwell answered in a low tone. "Certainly, Mr. Fitch."

The crowd filled their glasses; there was a pause—one man turned to Fitch and with unusual deliberation drawled:

"Here's damnation to thieves of every kind."

"The same here."

"And here."

"How." "How." "How."

The glasses were scarcely emptied before one man fell in a fit.

It was Ambrose Fitch who lay on the floor with a fleck of foam on his lips.

CHAPTER XXVIII.—THE HAUNTED HOUSE.

"There is nothing more for me to do. I leave on the next coach."

Maxwell was arranging some papers; Alexander was writing his last order for the famous Paradise brand.

Alexander sealed his letter, lit a cigar and looked at Maxwell curiously.

"How is Fitch?"

"All right I guess. He is around as usual—I noticed him crossing the street a little while ago."

"You are not afraid of him evidently."

"Do you think he is afraid of me?"

"If you don't get out of his sight he will kill himself or you."

"He will never kill me—the wretch is too great a coward. I have seen his equal. Since they lynched his associates the man is afraid of his shadow."

"What do you propose to do with him?"

"I will leave that for the authorities at Washington to determine. That is, providing there is anything left of him after we get through with him."

"Meaning the underwriters."

"Yes—ours is the first claim—and I think that will dispose of Mr. Fitch for the remainder of his life."

"Very likely."

"He will be closely watched—if he is building upon chances of escaping when I am out of Colorado he will be disappointed—that has all been duly provided for."

A familiar sound on the street attracted their attention. It was the coach from the east. The friends looked out of the window. The driver dismounted with the air of a man relieved of a weighty responsibility. The hostler took the horses by the head; an assistant unbuckled the straps and pulled the mail pouches out of the boot, then the coach was led around to the stable.

A dozen of passengers filed slowly into the hotel.

"I wonder if there is any letters for me."

Alexander began to pare his nails.

"I am not expecting anything."

Maxwell turned and fastened his valise. Then the friends walked down stairs and around to the postoffice leisurely.

Contrary to their expectations it was Maxwell who received the letters—Alexander received a bundle of newspapers.

Five minutes later they were back in their room immersed in letters and newspapers. Maxwell was aroused from reflections induced by his letter suggested by an exclamation from Alexander.

By George! Here is something that interests you old fellow."

He held out a paper as he spoke, pointing to a heading.

"There's more than the coroner in a hole in Bilchester it seems."

Maxwell glanced over the heading, then he sat down and read every line of the article tha: attracted Alexander's attention. It was a Bilchester paper—the leading newspaper published in Bilchester that printed this:

A Haunted House—The Weird Tale Told on Avenue "D" by Maid Servants.

A haunted house is a luxury that not every city can boast of in these practical matter of fact days, but it seems that Pilchester can claim the rare distinction of a genuine, simon-pure, warranted to wash haunted house with a ghost appliance guaranteed; all the fixtures and appurtenances of haunted houses being included without extra charge.

Bilchester is the last place anybody would think of looking in for a haunted house; the roar of its great mills, the thundering of its steam hammers, the roll of its continuous traffic on its streets and the gleaming lights from its thousands of furnaces that pierce the skies and illuminate its valleys one would think would drive the most intrepid ghost into despair—but they don't always.

A strange, weird tale comes to us from avenue "D."

Our readers doubtless remember the murder of Wilford Latimore who resided on this avenue. The house in which the murder was committed does not differ in any noteworthy respect from an hundred respectable looking houses on our residence streets.

Yesterday the people in the house next, No. 77, were aroused at an unusual hour by screams that proceeded from an upper room. The cries were so frantic that the neighbors were aroused; after a brief consultation some of the neighbors ventured into the house. The commotion was caused by one of the servants who was in a hysterical condition. The servant insisted that she had seen a ghost—the ghost of the departed master of the house.

Inasmuch as this particular servant had never seen the master of the house, it was difficult for anybody to invent a reason for the visit the departed head of the house made to this servant. But the servant had something to go on. There is a life-size picture of the dead man in one of the rooms; a room visited several times a day by the servant referred to. So her story when carefully sifted does not seem as extravagant as it sounds on a first telling.

This is the story the servant relates—and adheres to firmly.

She says she was awakened on the morning in question by a cold current of air (the invariable accompaniment of all genuine ghostly calls); that she experienced a "chill" (produced by the current referred to), and was "frozen with horror" upon seeing the late master of the home standing in the hallway.

The frightened servant was rendered speechless. She looked steadily at the ghost; the ghost looked steadily at her. Neither moved. Then—after an interval of a considerable length—how long the servant can not tell the ghost slowly raised one hand and waived it toward the paralyzed servant three times.

This broke the spell that chained her faculties. She screamed with all her might, arousing the whole neighborhood, who, recalling the tragic murder of its late master, jumped to the conclusion that another murder had been committed.

Medical aid was summoned before the servant could be quieted. But she adhered to her story—nothing could shake her in any way, hence the currency of the weird tale that is whispered on Avenue "D" just as we have related it.

A reporter of the Messenger interviewed Dr. Glyde, the famous physician. The doctor treated the matter lightly. It is not an uncommon thing for people to receive impressions in dreams as vivid as to seem reality—and he instanced cases that came under his notice where similar impressions were made in broad daylight—all purely imaginary as in the case of the servant at No. 77, Avenue "D."

The picture, the doctor explained, would really produce a stronger impression than the original.

Notwithstanding, there is an occupant of room 45 in the All Saints' Hospital who raves at intervals of "the ghost" she saw at No. 77, Avenue "D."

"What do you think of it?"

"I do not know what to think of it?" Maxwell replied.

"It is a devilish piece of business to frighten a poor girl in that way. She will never get over it."

"It is delightfully vague," said Maxwell. "They are very careful not to mention the servant's name."

He was wondering if any changes had been made in the household since he came to the West.

Sarah Laird would have advised him if any had been made, he reasoned. And she would write him fully concerning this absurd story. However, he would see her before he would receive her letter; this publication demanded prompt action. There might be something behind it. And at any rate, the sooner he reached the East now that his mission in the West was fulfilled, the better.

"Doctor Glyde comes in every conveniently, don't you think?"

"That does not surprise me," Maxwell answered; "I am prepared for his appearance promptly on the shortest notice when his service is required by the occupants of No. 77."

"One thing is certain, you have laid bare one of the boldest conspiracies I have ever read or heard of. I won't be surprised if lightning strikes the doctor at any time."

"That depends," Maxwell answered, "there are ways of covering things up so that it is impossible to convict. I am convinced that Glyde is a party to the conspiracy—but how are we going to prove it?"

"You will find a way—you will never rest until you do," said Alexander. "Your assistance will be rewarded."

"Meantime," said Alexander, handing Alexander a letter, "there is something that will interest you."

The letter was from the private detective agency in Bilchester. The portion that interested Alexander is all that is necessary to reproduce here:

"Recent revelations disclose the fact that a man named Cole was last seen entering No. 77. Our information is that he was admitted to Miss March. Cole's relatives have employed the police to ascertain his present whereabouts. Inquiries have been made of us. What motive there could be for the removal of Cole does not appear. The coincidence is extraordinary, however. It does not seem probable that he murdered Latimore, and yet if he was admitted to the house on the evening before the murder was committed, the connection is so close that it is fair to assume the incident has a direct bearing on the murder.

"It will be necessary to ascertain Cole's real relations to Mrs. Latimore and to Miss March. Until these are ascertained we would not hazard an opinion upon the presence of Cole at this juncture. The incident may be susceptible of an explanation that will relieve the ladies of all suspicion."

"There is no evidence to support the idea that Cole was an instrument—none to support the theory that he was induced to enter the house and murdered. We only know—and can easily prove the fact that Cole was last seen entering Latimore's house."

"What do you think of that?" Maxwell asked.

"I think that it looks very bad for Mrs. Latimore."

"Naturally."

"And you think the same?"

"Possibly I would, if I did not know better."

"Then you are in possession of facts that I know nothing about?"

"I am." • • •

"Thereupon Maxwell rehearsed the story Sally Haywood related to him.

"That puts an entirely different complexion upon the case."

"I confess, however, that instead of getting clearer, the case is growing foggier," said Maxwell.

"My wish in all probability will be gratified," said Alexander.

"Yes," Maxwell answered; "it looks as if we are both needed at Bilchester."

There was a rap on the door. Maxwell said in a loud voice:

"Come in."

The door was pushed open, and Farmer Sloan entered. Maxwell stared at him in astonishment.

"You didn't expect to see me?"

"I thought you were at Pollocks Corners."

"And so I would be if I hadn't run against a friend just after I left you. He

Question Bureau.

RULES.—1.—Real name and address must be written with every question. 2.—Only one question at a time. 3.—Don't ask for addresses of persons, or or firms, nor where to buy or sell anything, for such answers are free advertising. 4.—Don't ask about the reliability of any person or firm. 5.—We reserve the right to reject any question whose answer would not be of general interest; and will answer no mathematical problems, questions of law, etc. 6.—No answers by mail.

Free Silver Questions.

J. R. M., Henderson, N. C., and several others in different sections of the country: We mass the answers to your queries under one head, because they can thus be answered more briefly.

1.—"What is meant by 16 to 1?"

That silver dollars shall be coined of such weight that the pure silver in one silver dollar shall be equal in weight to the pure gold in 16 gold dollars. When the coinage law of 1834 was passed, one ounce of gold was worth just sixteen ounces of silver; hence, the bullion in the silver dollar and the bullion in the gold dollar were of equal value, and one coin was not worth more than the other. Now, an ounce of gold is worth about the same as 31 ounces of silver.

2.—"What is free coinage?"

Free coinage means to allow any one to take silver bullion to the mint and have it coined into as many silver dollars as it will make, paying only the actual cost or coinage. The word "free" refers to the liberty to have silver coined on private account, not to the cost of coinage.

3.—"What causes the stability in the value of gold?"

Its use by all the great commercial nations of the world as a money metal, and as the standard of value, is the chief cause of its stability. Besides this, the fact that the supply keeps up with the need for its use as coin, aids in keeping it stable.

4.—"When and how was silver demonetized?"

England did it in 1810, adopting the single gold standard, and she has grown rich and prosperous on the single gold standard. Germany abandoned silver in 1871; the United States in 1873; the countries of the Latin Union—then consisting of France, Belgium, Italy and Switzerland—in 1874 limited the coinage of legal tender silver; in 1875 Holland stopped all legal tender silver coinage; in 1876, France stopped all new coinage of legal tender silver; in 1878, all the countries of the Latin Union did the same thing; in 1903, Austria adopted the gold standard. No country in Europe has free silver coinage. It was done, in every case, by legal enactment.

4.—"Who asked for the demonetization of silver?"

All men versed in finance, leading merchants and others, who knew the evils that would come from a variation between the market ratio and the coinage ratio of gold and silver.

6.—"Was it generally known?"

The coinage act of 1875 was as well known as any act of Congressional legislation ever is known. It was first introduced in the Senate, April 28, 1870; printed in May; introduced in the House June 25; amended and ordered printed in the Senate, December 19; debated, January 9, 1871; passed by Senate, January 19; ordered printed in the House, January 13, 1871; reported with amendments and recommitted, February 25; original bill reintroduced and printed, March 6; reported and debated, January 9, 1872; recommitted, January 10; reported back with amendments, February 13, debated, April 9; passed by House, May 27, 1872; printed in Senate, May 28; reported with amendments and printed, December 16; reported with further amendments and printed, January 7, 1873; passed Senate, January 17, 1873, printed with concur amendments, in the House, January 21; sent back to conference committee; became a law, February 12, 1873. These dates are all taken from the files of the Congressional Globe of the years 1871-72-73. If it was not generally known, there is no good reason why it was not.

7.—"Is the silver dollar a full legal tender?"

We are tired of answering this. The silver dollar is a full legal tender in any amount. See United States Statutes, act of February 28, 1878.

8.—"If silver were restored, would gold go out of circulation?"

If silver were given free coinage at 16 to 1, gold would at once all go out of circulation. The silver in the silver dollar is worth only about 54 cents, and the silver dollar would become the standard, instead of the gold dollar as now, and would have only about half the purchasing power the dollar now has.

9.—"Why is the value of silver so low?"

Because there has been, since early in the '70's, far more silver produced than the world requires. Improved methods of mining, and of obtaining the silver from the ore, have enormously cheapened the cost of production.

10.—"Could the owner of gold buy $2 worth of silver bullion for $1 in gold?"

He can now. As we said above, the silver in the silver dollar is worth only about 54 cents as bullion.

11.—"Would free coinage of silver benefit the farmers?"

No, nor any one else except the mine owners. It would injure all other classes.

"Watches" and "Bells" on Ships.

J. S., Kendallville, Ind.: The officers and crew of a ship are divided into two divisions, performing duty alternately, called respectively the "starboard watch" and the "port watch," from the position of the sailors' bunks in the forecastle. The period of time each division is on duty is also called a "watch." A watch is 4 hours long, except the dog-watches, of two hours each, from 4 to 6 p. m. and 6 to 8 p. m., which are interposed daily to shift night duty from one division to the other alternately.

The time of each watch is recorded by "bells." Each half-hour the bell is struck. For instance, the "morning watch" is from 4 to 8 a. m. At 4:30 "one bell" is struck, at 5, two bells; at 5:30, three bells; at 6, four bells; at 6:30, five bells; at 7, six bells; at 7:30, seven bells; at 8, eight bells, when the watch changes, and at 8:30 it is "one bell" again, noon being eight bells, and then 4 o'clock.

The term "middle watch," as used in The Bible, refers to the Hebrew division of time from sunrise to sunset, and from sunset to sunrise, into three watches of four hours each. Thus, the middle watch of the night would be the time from about 10 p. m. to 2 a. m.

The Coinage Debate of 1873.

E. N. W., Adams, Ill., writes: "In the debate in the House, in 1873, on the bill which demonetized silver, did Representatives C. N. Potter, W. L. Stoughton, S. Hooper, and W. D. Kelly actually deliver the speeches credited to them, or did they obtain permission to print?

"A free silver speaker here claims the speeches were not made in the House, but were printed; that they were paid for publishing them with British gold, and that another bill was substituted for the original before it passed the House."

The speeches were actually delivered, as an examination of the Congressional Globe of these dates shows. Why did you not ask the foolish speaker to prove his assertion?

The statements you quote above are all falsehoods, invented by some scoundrel to mislead honest but uninformed voters. The fact has been proved over and over again that the coinage law of 1873 had the fullest and freest debate. The bill as passed was not a surreptitious substitute. The assertion that "British gold" was paid is simply ludicrous. Why was it paid? No man is foolish enough to bribe men unless he expects to make something. What was made by any one? The only way a man can make profit out of money is to invest it, or loan it out. Interest in the interest rates, not only here but in all European financial centers, are much lower than they were in 1873; hence no money was made by anybody. If people will use a little common sense in considering this question, they will see the utter fallacy of the free silver at 16 to 1 position.

Government Seeds.

R. B., Denmark, Mich., asks: "Where and to whom shall I send for the vegetable and flower seeds sent out by the government?"

Write to the representative from your district, care House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

Reprinting Poems.

J. W. J., Villisca, Iowa: We can file no more requests at present. We have over 200 requests for the printing of very many different poems under the head "Old Favorites." We are trying to comply with these requests in the order in which they came. There is no use in sending any more requests, for it will take over a year to comply with the ones we have on hand. We can devote but very little space to this, as the most of the requests are fore reprinting poems which have appeared in The Blade in past years, and it is unjust to old subscribers to take space to reprint things they have already had.

Department of Agriculture.

W. E. T., Marr's Landing, Wash.: The Department of Agriculture was created by an act passed by Congress in the winter of 1888-89. President Cleveland's first term was just ending, and he appointed Norman J. Coleman the first secretary, Harrison was inaugurated March 4, 1889, and appointed Jeremiah M. Rusk to succeed him.

A Silver Letter.

J. E. B., Otter Lake, Mich.: We regret that you can not understand that we may differ with you on the silver question, and yet be perfectly honest in believing that we are advocating what is best for the country, including all classes of citizens, farmers as well as everybody else.

It is not the fault of the money standard that wheat and other products are so low. This country has been on the gold standard in business, really since 1834, save during the greenback inflation times. Yet wheat sold in 1853-54 on the farm in Ohio at $2 a bushel, corn at $1, and so on. The world is raising more grain and other staple farm products than it consumes, and the price is low in consequence. You quote wheat at 62 cents. Phil Armour said, in Chicago, the other day that he expected to see dollar wheat next fall. Why? Because of the poor prospects for the growing crop. You seem to exclude all factors that go to make prices, and fix on the money question as the cause of all.

How absurd for you to talk of money being scarce and dear, when there has been, for the past half dozen years, more money in circulation in the United States, in proportion to the population, than ever before in our history! Why do you not examine facts, and base your arguments on them?

When The Blade talks of demagogues in connection with this question, it does not mean men like yourself, doubtless honest and well-meaning, but misled by sophistry and falsehood. We mean the fellows who originate the falsehoods, who elaborate sophisms, to deceive honest and well-meaning voters.

One thing more—you have certainly misread The Blade. We have never stated that free silver at 16 to 1 would "raise the purchasing price of produce," for it would not and could not. Don't you see that the only thing it would do would be to cut the purchasing power of the dollar in two? the farmer might get twice as many dollars as he now does for his produce, but each dollar would buy only as much as a half dollar buys now.

Another effect to which you are wilfully blind is that free coinage would enormously contract our circulation. First, it would drive out $600,000,000 of gold; second, it would cut the purchasing power of the remaining currency in half. That alone would bring on one of the most terrible financial panics the country ever saw. Please get down to facts and study the question.

Silver in State Platforms.

J. R. S., Yankton, Ore., asks: "Have not all the states, both Democratic and Republican, declared for the gold standard, with scarcely one exceptions? Please give a list of the states that have declared, in their conventions so far, for the gold standard and for the free silver standard."

We cannot give such a list, simply because we have not kept the record of the utterances of the various state platforms. The great majority, however, are on record against free silver at 16 to 1. The Populists of your state are self-deceived if they imagine the Republican national convention will declare for free silver, or that the election of a Republican President is impossible with a sound money platform. Here is Ohio, for instance, with 23 electoral votes—more than all the "silver states." It could not be carried for any candidate unless he was a sound money man. The same is true of all New England, New York, Pennsylvania, Michigan, Indiana, Kentucky, Illinois, Missouri, Iowa, Wisconsin, Minnesota, South Dakota, and other states. The states which will have to elect a Republican President are sound money states, and could not be carried for a free silver man.

The 22d President.

A. M. G., Doland, S. D., writes: "Grover Cleveland being President, then Harrison, then Cleveland again, why would Cleveland now be considered the 22d or 24th President, Harrison being the 23d?"

In using that language, the idea is to enumerate the number of different men who have held the Presidency, without regard to length of service. Cleveland was the 22d President, Harrison the 23d, and Cleveland's successor will be the 24th.

The Battle of Clontarf.

E. P. R., Fairfield, Wash.: The battle of Clontarf (not Glenterf, as you had it) was fought on Good Friday, April 23, 1014. Brian Boru was present at the battle, but his son, Murrough, was commander of the Irish forces. Moelmardha, king of Leinster, commanded the Danish troops. Both generals were slain in the battle. Brian Boru was killed by a retreating band of Danes, who, in turn, were put to the sword by the Irish. The battle lasted from 8 o'clock in the morning till 5 o'clock in the afternoon. Donnough, or Denis O'Brien, took command of the Irish forces after the death of his father Marrogh, and grandfather Brian Boru. Sitric, king of the Danes, of Dublin, took refuge in that city with the remains of the vanquished army.

American Securities.

A. P., Rathbun, Wis., writes: "I heard it stated recently that the balance of trade was in our favor during the years of 1894-1895, and that the cause of the exportation of so much gold was due to the fact that gold bearing bonds held by foreigners, which had been growing out of favor for several years, were thrown on our market. Is this true or not?"

You will find in Bureau of Weekly Blade of February 13, under the head "Our Trade Balance," a table of total imports and exports for a number of years. In the Bureau of Weekly Blade of February 27, under the head "The Balance of Trade," is an explanation of the table.

All bonds are understood to be payable, principal and interest, in gold, because the gold dollar is the standard by law. Very few, comparatively speaking, of our government bonds are held abroad, but there is something like two billion dollars of stocks and bonds of railways, manufacturing establishments, etc., owned in Europe. The fear that the United States would go to the silver standard, and these be then payable in dollars of only about half the value of the present dollar, has undoubtedly within the past two years led timid holders to send these over here for sale, so as to invest their money in something free from that danger.

A Democratic Lie.

A. S., Mendon, Mo., sends the following clipping from a Democratic paper, and asks whether the figures are correct:

"The speaker or newspaper asserting that the decline in government revenues came in with the Wilson bill perverts plain facts. When the McKinley bill was passed the surplus in the treasury was $105,000,000; after it had been a year in operation the surplus was $37,000,000; at the end of the second year it was $2,000,000, and after the end of the third year the deficit was $80,000,000."

The figures are false from beginning to end. There has been a surplus every year since the war until the Wilson-Gorman tariff law went into operation.

The following gives the actual receipts and expenditures of the government for the fiscal years ended June 30 of the years named. It is from the "Statistical Abstract of the United States," for 1895, an official publication of the treasury department:

Year.	Receipts.	Expenditures.
1890	$403,968,081	$358,618,585
1891	478,544,238	421,304,470
1892	425,868,260	415,953,807
1893	461,716,562	459,374,888
1894	372,802,408	442,905,755
1895	296,373,203	433,178,426

The Wilson-Gorman law went into effect in 1893, in the fiscal year 1894. You will notice the receipts were more than the expenditures up to then. The expenditures exceeded the receipts in 1894 and 1895. It is atrocious that any newspaper should publish such bald lies as these in the above paragraph.

The Future Life.

G. R. S., Rochester, N. Y., asks: "Please explain to me how they know that there is an ethereal abode of human intelligence?"

Nobody knows whether there is such a place or not, nor whether it is in the solar system or somewhere else in the universe; for the solar system is but a very minute portion of the latter. All that any one knows is the promise of life eternal to those who do the will of God; but the place where that life will be spent is not given.

Civil Service Examinations.

G. L., Pittston, Pa., writes: "I am desirous of undergoing an examination by the civil service commission or its examining board. Can you give me some idea of the nature of its branches of learning which it requires an applicant to know? What men constitute the body, and to whom must I apply for the necessary information as to how I must proceed?"

Write a letter addressed to "Hon. John T. Doyle, Secretary U. S. Civil Service Commission, Washington, D. C." State what kind of an examination you wish to take—for instance, whether you wish a clerkship in a department at Washington, or a railway postal route, or whatever else it may be. You will receive a circular giving all needed information, and the dates and places of examination.

Army Rank.

O. B., Sibley, Iowa: The rank of colonel was the same, during the late war, in the regular volunteer service, except that the regular army colonel always outranked and took precedence in command over a colonel of volunteers, whenever occasion brought them together. We do not know the title of the book, nor who publishes it.

Soldiers' Homes.

G. D., Toledo, O.: The national soldiers' homes are not bounded by districts; but when he is admitted he is always sent to the nearest one, as the government pays his transportation.

Pension Questions.

C. C. C., Armadale, O.: As you have property which certainly must bring you more than $100 a year, you are not entitled to a widow's pension, so we are informed. It is said the law contemplates only pensioning widows whose yearly income does not exceed $100.

M. D., Breck, Neb.: "An ex-soldier, in a fit of aberration, wanders away, and for some time no trace of him can be found. Can any one draw his pension? Will his pension lapse by absence? If he returns, or is found, will he draw pension back to time covered by last voucher?"

No one can draw his pension but himself. His pension will lapse after an absence of three years. If he returns, or is found, he can draw his pension back to the date of last voucher.

H. F., Adamsville, Pa.: You can employ another attorney, giving him a power of attorney to act for you.

A. C., Bedford, Iowa: He can get another examination by alleging increased disability, and his pension will not be kept back if he is again put on the rolls.

Soldiers' Homesteads.

A. A. K., Dell, Mont.: The homestead law requires five years' residence before obtaining full ownership of his homestead, but all soldiers may deduct from that time the term of their service in the army, up to four years. As you served over four years, you are entitled to a deduction of four years, and will have to reside on the homestead only one year in order to prove up.

Miscellaneous.

W. E. H., Sherwood, O.: The General Assembly of Ohio has passed no such law.

W. M. P., Camp Creek, Va.: We have never heard what was done with the criminals you mention.

T. E. D., Everett, Pa.: We have handed your question to the editor of the Farmstead column. Watch it for the answer.

J. B., Toledo, O.: There is no law in Ohio giving preference to old soldiers in municipal office work; but there is a city ordinance in Cincinnati which does so for that city.

W. T., California, Mich.: We are sorry to say we do not know the limitations on property by descent in Great Britain. You will have to apply to some lawyer to obtain the information.

"C. M. Baker" sends a question which reached the editor of the Bureau as a slip cut off a letter, without postoffice address. We wish that if queries are sent in letters on other subjects, the sender would write on a seperate slip of paper, sign name, and give postoffice address. The United States special liquor tax does not relieve a dealer of any state or city license fees.

New Cure—Kidney and Bladder Disease.

If you are suffering from bladder or kidney diseases, pain in the back or rheumatism, you should send for the new botanic discovery Alkavis, which will be sent free by mail postpaid, by the Church Kidney Cure company, 418 Fourth ave., New York. Alkavis is certainly a wonderful remedy, and you should try it, as it is offered you free.

CURIOUS EYE-TESTS.

Some Experiments That Show How Vision Deceives Us.

A celebrated scientist once remarked that if an optician should send him on approval an instrument as full of defects as is the human eye, he would feel justified in at once returning it.

Nevertheless, the eye is the most wonderful of the organs of the body, combining within itself all the attributes of a photograph gallery—camera, lens, plate and developing room, and transmitting to the brain in the fractional part of a second a perfect picture of outside objects and occurrences. But the eye is far from infallible, nevertheless; indeed, it is surprising how easily it may be deceived.

Consider, for example, the inability of the eye to correctly estimate the size of anything; thus, a furnished room always appears larger than an unfurnished one, and a bare wall smaller than one that has been papered; while few persons can tell from viewing it whether a picture on a wall is hung exactly straight or not. This is especially true if they are close to it.

The following simple experiment may be easily made: Select at random from a printed page a number of letter S's or figure 8's, like these:

```
SSSSSSS
8888888
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Holding the page directly before you, as in reading, the upper and lower loops of each letter appear to be of the same size; but if the paper be turned upside down, it will at once be seen that the lower loops are the larger.

The diagrams given below illustrate a few well known optical illusions:

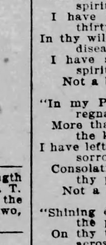


Fig. 1.

Fig. 1 consists of two lines of equal length crossing at right angles so as to form a T. A casual observer would at once select the vertical line as being the longer of the two, yet they measure exactly the same.

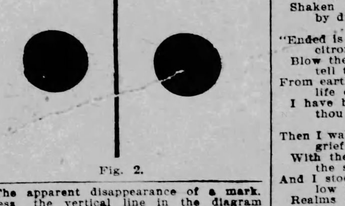


Fig. 2.

The apparent disappearance of a mark. Press the vertical line in the diagram against the bridge of the nose, with a black ball before each eye, and only one of the balls will be visible.

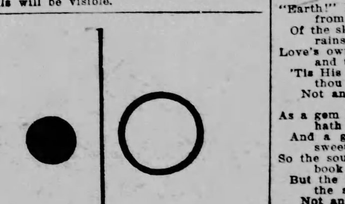


Fig. 3.

This is similar to Fig. 2, except that the ball on the left, instead of disappearing when held as above described, will appear to be within the circle and near its right edge. The most physiologies, under the subject of "vision," may be found interesting variations of these two experiments.

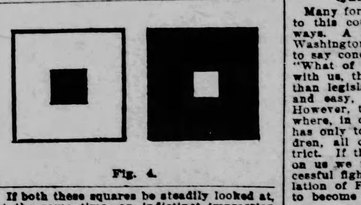


Fig. 4.

If both these squares be steadily looked at, at the same time, an indistinct impression is received, and though the central black square is considerably larger than the central white one, they will appear of the same size, the difference, if any be noticeable, being in favor of the white.—F. C. M. in the Philadelphia Times.

Ghost Stories for Fun.

Elmira women have organized a novel and exciting form of Lenten entertainment. They gather at one another's houses after the dinner hour, and, seated around the fire, tell blood-curdling ghost stories. The entertainment lasts until midnight, and only when properly awe-struck do they spur their beds to dream, or to lie awake and shudder, according as the horror-haired them wished, or does not. During Lenten functions, there is no attempt at elaborate refection. Candles of the most insipid-ible sorts are served, and, with their help, the ghost stories are audibly to be trusted to provide a night's entertainment.

WAS IT POE'S MODEL?

ALLSTON LAVENDER'S POEM IS SIMILAR TO "THE RAVEN."

Coincidence, First or Last—Written by Lavender a Year Before He Died in a Crazy House.

Edgar Allen Poe died a drunkard at the age of 40. This singular and degraded man of genius, mysterious in life, left us much to guess at when he breathed his last in a Baltimore hospital. The origin of "The Raven" has never quite satisfactorily been explained. Shrewd guesses have been made, and the world has accepted them as facts. Too much, however, has been taken for granted. We do know that Poe was a son of strolling players—whatever they may have been in the beginning of the century—and that he was all his life utterly incorrigible. We know that from infancy he had his will and his way. The kind old man who adopted him, and whose name he bore—Mr. Allan—could do nothing with him. He was crazy sober and crazy drunk. He had no good influence on certain young men of Baltimore, who made a sort of idol of him, worshipping at his shrine and getting drunk with him.

There was a visitor in Baltimore on the occasion of one of these orgies, who had come all the way from Edenton, N. C., to meet his sweetheart. Instead he met Poe. Misery, they say, loves company, and sometimes makes strange bedfellows. There seemed to be from the first an affinity between Poe and Allston Lavender. They were drawn unconsciously together. One was as wild and erratic as the other. It was Lavender's misfortune to reach the lunatic asylum, while Poe, equally crazy, remained outside. On the records of the asylum at Raleigh, N. C., is a brief statement that one R. Allston Lavender was an inmate. He was well connected, some of them blue blood in Virginia, Maryland and North Carolina flowing in his veins. Most of the time he was so demented that he had to be confined in a straitjacket.

A year before Lavender died in the asylum he wrote a poem which fell into the hands of a Methodist clergyman. This kind man regarded it as possessing great psychological interest, and delighted in showing it to his friends wherever he went, and in reading it aloud to them. Poe probably heard him read it. Dates are difficult to get at, and there is no direct proof that this poem, so like "The Raven," was written before the lines that made the world say Poe was a genius, but it is certainly worthy of consideration that such an effort should have been made by a maniac in a lunatic asylum, so demented that a straitjacket was needed to keep him in subjection, and that that maniac had been a friend of Poe before the world knew Poe at all.

Here is Lavender's utterance:

THE MANIAC'S DREAM.

Fires within my brain were burning,
Scorning life, despairing, yearning;
Hopeless, blinded in my anguish,
Through my body's open door
Came a raven, foul and sable,
Like those evil birds of fable,
Downward swooping, where the drooping
Spectres haunt the Stygian shore.

Ghosts of agonies departed, festering wounds that long had smarted,
Broken vows, returnless mornings, griefs and miseries of yore,
By some art revived, undaunted, I gazed steadfast; the enchanted
Black, infernal raven uttered a wild dirge —not Evermore!

Gazing steady, gazing madly, on the bird, I spoke and sadly,
Broken down too deep for scorning, sought for mercy to implore;
Turning to the bird, I blessed it, in my bosom I caressed it;
Still it pierced my heart and reveled in the palpitating gore.

I grew mad; the crowning fancies, black weeds they, not blooming pansies,
Made me think the bird a spirit. "Bird!" I cried, "be bird no more;
Take a shape, be man, be devil! Be a snake; rise in thy revel!
From thy banquet rise! Be human! I have seen thee oft before.
Thou art a bird, but something more.

"Tapping, tapping, striking deeper, rousing pain, my body's keeper,
Thou has oft erewhile sought entrance at the heart's great palace door.
Leave me, leave me, gloomy demon; fiend or spirit most inhuman,
Strike me through, but first unveiling, let me scan thee o'er and o'er.
Thou art a bird, but something more."

Still with sable pinions flapping, the great raven, tapping, tapping,
Struck into my breast his talons, vast his wings outspread, and o'er
All my nature cast a pallor, but I strove with dying valor,
With the godhand of repulsion striking through the form it wore,
Of a bird, and something more.

"Oh, thou huge, infernal raven, image that Hell's King hath graven,
Image growing more gigantic, nursed beyond the Stygian shore;
Leave me, leave me. I beseech thee, I would not of wrong impeach thee,"
I cried madly. The earth opened with a brazen earthquake roar.

Downward, downward, circling, speeding, cries of anguish still unheeding,
Striking through me with his talons, still the raven shape he bore;
Unto Erebus we drifted, his huge wings by thunder lifted,
Beat 'gainst drifts of white-flamed lightning, sprinkled red with human gore.
'Twas a bird, but demon more.

"I'm no bird; an angel, brother; a bright spirit and none other;
I have waited blissful, tended thee for thirty years or more;
In thy wild, illusive madness, in thy blight, disease and sadness,
I have sounded tapping, tapping at thy spirit's Eden door.
Not a bird, but angel more.

"In my Palmyrelan splendor, in Zenobian regnance tender,
More than Reinak, though Aurelian were the kingly name I bore;
I have left my angel palace, dropping in thy sorrow's chalice,
Consolation. Oh! 'Twas blessed sweet thy pillow to bend o'er.
Not a bird; Love's angel more.

"Shining down with light Elysian through the pearly gates of vision,
On thy tranced, soul-lighted fancy, when across thy chamber floor
Fell the spirit moonlight, laden, laden with soft dews of Aidenn,
Shaken outward all unspent of nepenthe, drunk by dreaming bards of yore.

"Ended is life's mocking fever, where thro' citron groves forever
Blow the spice winds, and the love birds tell their raptures o'er and o'er,
From earth's hell, by Afrit's haunted, from life evil disenchanted,
I have come thee; gaze upon me; didst thou see me ne'er before?"

Then I wakened, if to waken be to dwell by grief forsaken
With the God who dwelt with angels in the shining age of yore—
And I stood sublime, victorious, while below lay earth, with glorious
Realms of light and shining crown-like on her temples evermore.
Not an earth; an Eden more.

"Earth!" I cried, "thy clouds are shadows from the Aspodelian meadows
Of the sky-world floating downward, early rains that from them pour,
Lovely own heaven, thy mother, bore thee, and the Father, God, bends o'er thee,
'Tis His hand that crowns thy forehead—thou shalt live forevermore,
Not an earth; an Eden more."

As a gem hath many gleamings, and a day hath many beamings,
And a garden many roses thrilled with sweetness like to core;
So the soul hath many ages, and the life's book many pages,
But the heart's great gospel opens where the seraphim adore,
Not an earth; an Eden more.

I will write a book hereafter cheerful as a baby's laughter,
When its mother's breast o'erleans it on the sainted spirit shore,
Like Apollo, the far data, I, the poet and the martyr,
Will cast psalms of soul-music that shall live forevermore,
Not a friend; a brother more.

—New York Press.

Qualifications for Office.

Many foreigners return home from a visit to this country with strange ideas of its ways. A Frenchman who was recently in Washington when back in Paris had this to say concerning members of Congress: "What of the Deputies and Senators? As with us, they do a great deal more talking than legislative work. They are more free and easy, and there are no reserved. However, this is quite natural in a country where, in order to be elected to any office, one has only to be the father of twenty children, all of them born in the district. If the same conditions were to exist on us we might succeed in making successful fight against the increasing population of France. What would not I do to become a Deputy?"

A Lingerie Caprice.

Here is a lingerie caprice. It comes from Paris, and is, of course, piquant. Madame or Mademoiselle Novelty must needs have her Christian name embroidered in full upon her pet pieces of underwear. The embroidery is a copy of her own handwriting, and is done in wash linens. It adorns the upper left side of her tailor-made chemise; the broad collar flap of her nightrobe; the waistband of her many tucked skirts, and appears on corset covers, hosiery and underpants. Monograms are voted "old-fashioned," and this modern "stamp" is the vogue.

Cancers and Tumors

Cured with mild oils, either external or internal; used by any one with safety. For particulars and prices of oils, address Dr. Bye, Indianapolis, Ind.

Spring

Is the season for purifying, cleansing and renewing. The accumulations of waste everywhere are being removed. Winter's icy grasp is broken and on all sides are indications of nature's returning life, force and power.

Spring

Is the time for purifying the blood and cleansing the system. Owing to close confinement, diminished perspiration and other causes, in the winter, impurities have not passed out of the system as they should have done, but have accumulated in the blood.

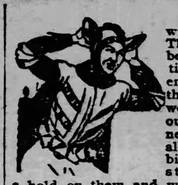
Spring

Is therefore the best time to take Hood's Sarsaparilla, because the system is now most in need of medicine. That Hood's Sarsaparilla is the best blood purifier and Spring medicine is proved by its wonderful cures. A course of Hood's Sarsaparilla now may prevent great suffering later on.

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Is the One True Blood Purifier. All druggists. $1. Prepared only by C. I. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass. Be sure to get HOOD'S and only HOOD'S.

Hood's Pills cure all Liver Ills and Sick Headache. 25 cents.
Sold by all druggists or sent by mail on receipt of price by C. I. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass.



Men are often wiser than they act. They know how to be happy but sometimes they are miserable. They know there is no happiness worth the name without health; yet they neglect health. They allow dyspepsia and biliousness and constipation to get a hold on them and make life wretched. Those three complaints usually come together. Constipation affects the stomach and liver. That brings on bilious attacks and indigestion, headaches, nausea, dizziness, queer sensations of weakness and palpitation. Your nerves are unstrung, your system is sluggish. You lose ambition. The fact is your whole constitution is being slowly undermined. What you need is Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets.

They cure constipation, dyspepsia and biliousness in the only sure, permanent way. There is nothing violent or irritating about them, they work mildly though quickly. They tone and strengthen the bowels to carry on their functions naturally. They gently stimulate the flow of bile from the liver and the digestive juices of the stomach. You don't become a slave to their use as with other pills. They make you regular and then you can leave them. That is the difference between Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets and the something "just as good," which a sharp druggist tries to substitute. Don't let him do so with you.

If you want to keep your health and strength without consulting the doctor so often, the best thing you can do is to write to the World's Dispensary Medical Association, Buffalo, N. Y., for a copy of Dr. Pierce's great book, the "People's Common Sense Medical Adviser." Send 21 one-cent stamps to cover cost of mailing *only*. It is a large book of 1008 pages, with over 300 illustrations. Of it the same book of which 680,000 copies were sold at $1.50 each. The only difference is in the binding, which in the free edition is of strong manilla paper.

There is no other such complete family doctor book in the English language. It is a veritable medical library, complete in one volume. Send now before all are given away. They are going off rapidly, therefore, do not delay sending *immediately* if in want of one. The above generous offer is limited to 500,000 copies.

THE LATEST IN LAMP SHADES.

Made of Silk, Satin, Brocade, Paper and Vegetable Parchment.

Quite the latest styles for fashionable lamp shades are the Louis Seize and the Empire. These are made of silk, satin, brocade, paper and vegetable parchment, so ladies who make them for their homes have a large choice of materials. Besides being more uncommon than the ordinary silk and lace shades, they allow scope for display of originality on the part of the decorative artist.

The decoration is done with water colors. Sable brushes are best, and these should not be too small, but they should come to a fine point. The tendency of the worker will doubtless be to put the color on thinly, for fear that otherwise the effect will be heavy. This is a mistake, for the paintings to show well at night need to be strong. At the same time we must avoid getting them at all glaring in color, as they look badly then in daylight. A happy medium, with a leaning towards strong coloring, must be our aim.

It is important to keep the design thoroughly characteristic of the period chosen. Garlands of roses, blue ribbons tied in French bows, scrolls, medallions, figure subjects after the old French masters are all appropriate. Some license is allowed to decorators, but all artistic effects will be lost if different styles are mixed up unmercifully on one shade. One error very easily fallen into is to treat the flowers, enclosed in a medallion, we will say, in the Japaneses style, rather than in the French style, as this is fatal to success.

Watteau subjects done in the style of fan paintings, but more simply colored, are charming for lamp shades. Sometimes they are self-colored, a soft red being the favorite tint. This I find lights up well and is yet more satisfactory by daylight. The scroll edges may correspond, or may be done with pale blue, red and green.

A lovely decoration for an Empire shade consists of medallions placed at equal distances apart and connected with floral garlands. The medallions may be treated in different ways. Either cupids with bows or female heads (the hair dressed in the style in vogue during the Empire) look well, but keep to one or other of the subjects.

Choose three different arrangements of cupids or three different heads for the one shade. Carry out the subjects in soft tones of red with fine strokes of the brush, as far as possible giving the effect of a print. Surround them with a band of blue, and beyond that a wreath of leaves delicately represented; or frame them with pearls after the fashion of old miniatures. The latter framing is specially suited for heads.

Connect the medallions with garlands of flowers. Border the plain lower edge of the shade with a band of blue and a wreath of leaves, and finish the top edge to match. If heads are chosen, let the medallions be sufficiently large to take in the busts as well; not only will they look better so, but the opportunity is secured of adding a characteristic bit of the costume of the period.

Venetian river scenes might be represented with equal, if not greater, success. The buildings are somewhat shadowy representations done in blue-gray tones, and the water is lightly washed in; here a terrace overhanging the banks, steps leading down to the water's edge, a boat or two gliding on the water, a glimpse of a doge's palace, and the decoration is complete.

Drunkenness is a Disease.

Will send free book of particulars, how to cure "Drunkenness or the Liquor Habit" with or without knowledge of the patient. DR. J. W. HAINES, 187 Race st., Cincinnati, O.

TOO SPLENDID TO USE.

Some of the Flaming Silks Are Far Too Fantastic for Us.

There are a great many materials in the market which one looks at and admires, but never thinks of buying. From a spectacular point of view they are very pretty, but it is hard to think of anything useful that could be done with them. Those large figured silks and satins that look like flaming banners hung up in the windows are a puzzle to the utilitarian who cannot imagine an ordinary woman appearing in such a garb. They look as if they might make very pretty hangings or draperies for a window or the walls of a handsome bedside when there is room for them to spread itself before it reaches an edge or a seam. But after one has seen the effect of one of those immense seven-yard skirts made of silk or satin with a corresponding colossal figure of leaves, or fanciful scrolls, or bunches of flowers, then one believes that they are magnificent, and not at all out of keeping, especially when worn by a large woman.

A Brilliant Success.

Mrs. Manhattan—Was Mrs. Lakeside's last marriage a failure?

Mrs. Wabash—No, indeed. She was granted a divorce and alimony within twenty minutes after the case was called.—Town Topics.

—Lack of vitality and color-matter in the bulbs causes the hair to fall out and turn gray. We recommend Hall's Hair Renewer to prevent baldness and gray-ness.

ROYAL WEDDINGS.

Princess Maud of Wales and Her Danish Fiance.

Royal weddings seem to loom up thick and fast in the near future, says a London letter in the New York Mail and Express. The marriage of the Princess Alexandra of Saxe-Coburg, to the hereditary Prince of Hohenlohe Langenburg, is definitely fixed for April 26, and will take place at Coburg with exactly the same ceremony as that observed at the marriage of the Grand Duke and Duchess of Hesse. Queen Victoria will be present, so it is hoped, to grace her young granddaughter's marriage, accompanied by the Duke and Duchess of Connaught, and the German emperor and the Empress Frederick will also be among the guests. Then, of course, we in London, are looking forward with any amount of pleasurable anticipation to Princess Maud of Wales's wedding, which is to take place, according to the latest authority, during the first week in July. But royal "dates" are never to be depended upon. They chop and change their plans like ordinary human beings.

Princess Maud.

The cut is from the latest photograph of the bride-elect and her fiance, Prince Carl, of Denmark. They look a more personable and attractive pair than royal couples usually are, and it is said that they are genuinely fond of each other.

However that may be, the youngest daughter of the Prince of Wales is a very pretty girl of the mignonne, saucy type, that is so attractive to men and women alike.

I wish she would have a picture taken in which she is shown wearing her eyeglass. She manages her rimless monocle with the greatest ease, and the effect is singularly smart.

Prince Carl is a fine, manly fellow, and seems very well satisfied with the prospect of becoming a benedict.

Princess Louise.

And, speaking of royal brides, reminds me of a royal "silver" wedding, March 21, of Princess Louise (Marchioness of Lorne). She is 48 years of age, and has passed a quarter of a century in double harness with the oldest son of the Duke of Argyll. Both the princess and her husband bear their years remarkably well, for she is still a handsome, smart-looking woman, while he is a good-looking if rather colorless sort of man. In a paper containing an account of the wedding of the queen's fourth daughter I learn that the bridal robes of Princess Louise included a very long train, which was borne by eight noble bridesmaids, daughters of dukes, marquises and earls. In after years, when princesses officiated as bridesmaids to royal brides, it hardly seemed correct that they should act as trainbearers, so it is interesting to learn that it was for this reason that the wedding dresses of Princess Beatrice, the Duchess of Fife and the Duchess of York were made short enough to trail the ground without being held up. On the occasion of Princess Louise's wedding the queen, of course, adhered to her usual sable garb, making a strange contrast in her crape-trimmed robes to the gorgeousness of the ladies about her.

PRINCESS MAUD AND PRINCE CARL.

KANSAS CITY'S VITAL HEALER.

A Marvelous Power Which Nature Has Gifted Him With.

Special Correspondence Toledo Weekly Blade.

Kansas City, Mo., April 14.—At Broadway and Ninth street, in Kansas City, can be seen every day at early morning a crowd of people seeking the Vital Healer, Dr. C. H. Carson. The fact that he cures the most hopeless cases that are brought to him, without drugs, medicine or surgical appliances, has given him the patronage of the best people of his own city, and hundreds are coming to receive the benefit of his marvelous power, from all parts of the United States. He is kept so busy he never has an occasion to visit other cities. He cures cancers, tumors, paralysis and every form of nervous exhaustion. He often cures rheumatism, heart disease and female weakness, in a single course of from three to six treatments. Patients some times return home the same day they arrive, fully restored after a single treatment. His Vitalized treatments sent by mail are wonderful in their effects, and many who are unable to visit Kansas City, are receiving this treatment.

All letters are answered when addressed to Dr. C. H. Carson, Kansas City,

Talmage's Sermon.

IMPORTANT LESSONS FROM THE LIFE OF JOSEPH.

Men Who Rise From Humble Surroundings and Attain Places of Honor and Fame.

Washington, D. C., April 13.—The sermon of Rev. Dr. Talmage Sunday is full of stirring and practical lessons for all. Washington has many men who, like the hero of the texts, started from almost nothing, and rose to high place. The texts chosen were: "Genesis 37:28: "They drew and lifted up Joseph out of the pit and sold Joseph to the Ishmaelites for twenty pieces of silver." Genesis 55:26: "He is governor over all the land of Egypt."

You cannot keep a good man down. God has decreed for him a certain point of elevation. He will bring him to that though it cost him a thousand worlds. You sometimes find men fearful they will not be properly appreciated. Every man comes to be valued at just what he is worth. You cannot write him up, and you cannot write him down. These facts are powerfully illustrated in my subject. It would be an insult to suppose that you were not all familiar with the life of Joseph. How his jealous brothers threw him into a pit, but seeing a caravan of Arabian merchants trudging along on their camels with spices and gums that loaded the air with aroma, sold their brother to these merchants, who carried him down into Egypt; Joseph was there sold to Potiphar, a man of influence and office. How by Joseph's integrity he raised himself to high position in the realm, until under the false charge of a vile wretch he was hurled into the penitentiary. How in prison he commanded respect and confidence. How by the interpretation of Pharaoh's dream he was freed and became the chief man in the realm, the Bismarck of his century. How in the time of famine Joseph had the control of a magnificent storehouse which he had filled during seven years of plenty. How when his brothers, who had thrown him into the pit and sold him into captivity, applied for corn, he sent them home with the beasts of burden borne down under the heft of the corn sacks. How the sin against their brother which had so long been hidden came out at last and was returned by that brother's forgiveness and kindness—the only revenge he took.

You see, in the first place, that the world is compelled to honor Christian character. Potiphar was only a man of the world, yet Joseph rose in his estimation until all the affairs of that great house were committed to his charge. From his servant no honor or confidence was withheld. When Joseph was in prison he soon won the heart of the keeper, and though placed there for being a scoundrel he soon convinced the jailer that he was innocent and trustworthy man, and released from close confinement he became general superintendent of prison affairs. Wherever Joseph was placed, whether a servant in the house of Potiphar, or a prisoner in the penitentiary, he became the first man everywhere, and is an illustration of the truth I lay down, that the world is compelled to honor Christian character. There are those who affect to despise a religious life. They speak of it as a system of phlebotomy by which the man is bled of all his courage and nobility. They say he has bemeaned himself. They pretend to have no more confidence in him since his conversion than before his conversion. But all this is hypocrisy. There is a great deal of hypocrisy in the church, and there is a great deal of hypocrisy outside the church. It is impossible for any man not to admire and confide in a man who shows that he has really become a child of God, and is what he professes to be. You cannot despise a son of the Lord God Almighty. Of course we have no admiration for the sham of religion.

I was at a place a few hours after the ruffians had gone into the rail-train and demanded that the passengers throw up their arms, and then these ruffians took the pocketbooks; and Satan comes and suggests to a man that he throw up his arms in hypocritical prayer and pretension, and then steals his soul. For the mere pretension of religion we have abhorrence. Redwald, the king, after baptism, had an altar for Christian sacrifice and an altar for sacrifice to devils; and there are many men now attempting the same thing—half a heart for God and half a heart for the world—and it is a dead failure, and it is a caricature of religion, and the only successful assault ever made on Christianity is the inconsistency of its professors. You may have a contempt for pretension of religion, but when you behold the excellency of Jesus Christ come out in the life of one of his disciples, all that there is good and noble in your soul rises up into admiration, and you cannot help it.

Though that man be as far beneath you in estate as the Egyptian slave of whom we are discoursing was beneath his rulers, by an irrevocable law of your nature, Potiphar and Pharaoh will always esteem Joseph. When Eudoxia, the empress, threatened Chrysostom with death, he made the reply, "Tell the empress I fear nothing but sin." Such a scene as that compels the admiration of the world. There was something in Agrippa and Felix which demanded their respect for Paul, the rebel against the government. I doubt not they would willingly have yielded their offices and dignity for a thousandth part of that true heroism which beamed in the eye and beat in the heart of that unconquerable apostle. Paul did not cower before Felix; Phelix cowered before Paul. The infidel and worldling are compelled to honor in their hearts, although they may no eulogize with their lips, a Christian firm in persecution, cheerful in poverty, trustful in losses, triumphant in death. I find Christian men in all professions and occupation, and I find them respected and honored and successful. John Frederick Oberlin alleviating ignorance and distress, Howard passing from dungeon to lazaretto with healing for the body and soul; Elizabeth Fry going to the profligacy of Newgate prison to shake its obduracy as the angel came to the prison at Philippi, driving open the doors and snapping loose the chain, as well as the lives of thousands of followers of Jesus who have devoted themselves to the temporal and spiritual welfare of the race, are monuments of the Christian religion that shall not crumble while the world lasts. A man said to me in the cars: "What is religion? Judging from the character of many professors of religion I do not admire religion." I said: "Now, suppose we went to an artist in the city of Rome and while in his gallery asked him, 'What is the art of painting?' would he take us out in a low alley and show us a mere daub of a pretender at painting? or would he take us down into the corridors, and show us the Rubens, and the Raphaels, and the Michael Angelos? And when we asked him, 'What is the art of painting?' he would point to the works of these great masters and say, 'That is painting.' Now you propose to find the mere caricature of religion, to seek after that which is the mere pretension of a holy life, and you call that religion. I point you to the splendid men and women whom this gospel has blessed and lifted and crowned. Look at the masterpieces of divine grace if you want to know what religion is."

We learn also from this story of Joseph that result of persecution is elevation. Had it not been for his being sold into Egyptian bondage by his malicious brother, and his false imprisonment, Joseph never would have become a governor. Everybody accepts the promise, "Blessed are they that are persecuted for righteousness sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven," but they do not realize the fact that this principle applies to worldly as well as spiritual success. It is true in all departments. Men rise to high official positions through misrepresentation. Public abuse is all that some of our public men have had to rely upon for their elevation. It has brought to them what talent and executive force could not have achieved. Many of those who are making great effort for place and power will never succeed, just because they are not of enough importance to be abused. It is the nature of men—that is of all generous and reasonable men—to gather about those who are persecuted and defend them, and they are apt to forget the fault of those who are the subjects of attack while attempting to drive back the slanderers. Persecution is elevation. Helen Stirk, the Scotch martyr, standing with her husband at the place of execution, said: "Husband, let us rejoice to-day; we have lived together many happy years; this is the happiest time of all our life; you see we are to be happy together forever. Be brave now, be brave. I will not say 'Good night' to you for we shall soon be in the kingdom of our Father together." Persecution shows the heroes and heroines.

I go into another department and I find that those great denominations of Christians which have been most abused have spread the most rapidly. No good man was ever more violently maltreated than John Wesley—belled an' caricatured and slandered until one day he stood in a pulpit in London, and a man arose in the audience and said: "You were drunk last night," and John Wesley said: 'Thank God, the whole catalogue is now complete. I have been charged with everything but that!" His followers were hooted at and maligned and called by every detestable name that infernal ingenuity could invent, but the hotter the persecution the more rapidly they spread, until you know what a great host they have become and what a tremendous force for God and the truth they are wielding all the world over! It was persecution that gave Scotland to Presbyterianism. It was persecution that gave our land first to civil liberty and afterward to religious freedom. Yea, I might go further back and say it was persecution that gave the world the great salvation of the gospel. The ribald mockery, the hungering and thirsting, the unjust charge, the ignominious death, when all the force of hell's fury was hurled against the Cross, was the introduction of that religion which is yet to be the earth's deliverance and our eternal salvation. The state sometimes said to the church, "Come, take my hand and I will help you." What is the result? The church went back and it lost its estate of holiness, and it became ineffective. At other times the state said to the church, "I will crush you." What has been the result? After the storms have spent their fury, the church, so far from having lost any of its force, has increased and is worth infinitely more after the assault than before. Read all history and you will find that true. The church is far more indebted to the opposition of civil government than to its approval. The fires of the stake have only been the torches which Christ held in his hand, by the light of which the church has marched to her present glorious position. In the sound of racks and implements of torture I hear the rumbling of the gospel chariot. The scaffolds of martyrdom have been the stairs by which the church mounted.

Learn also from our subject that sin will come to exposure. Long, long ago had those brothers sold Joseph in Egypt. They had made the old father believe that his favorite child was dead. They had suppressed the crime, and it was a profound secret well kept by the brothers. But suddenly the secret is out. The old father hears that his son is in Egypt, having been sold there by the malice of his own brothers. How their cheeks must have burned and their hearts sunk at the damning out of their long suppressed crime. The smallest iniquity has a thousand tongues, and they will blab out exposure. Saul was sent to destroy the Canaanites, their sheep and their oxen; but when he got down there among the pastures, he saw some fine sheep and oxen too fat to kill, so he thought he would steal them. Nobody would know it. He drove these stolen sheep and oxen toward home but stopped to report to the prophet how he had executed his mission, when in the distance the sheep began to bleat and the oxen to bellow. The secret was out, and Samuel said to the blushing and confused Saul: "What meaneth the bleating of the sheep that I hear and the bellowing of the cattle?" Ah! my hearer, you can not keep an iniquity still. At just the wrong time the sheep will bleat and the oxen will bellow. Achan can not steal the Babylonish garment without being stoned to death, nor Ahold betray his country without having his neck stretched. Look over the police arrests.

These thieves, these burglars, these counterfeiters, these highwaymen, these assassins, they all thought they could bury their iniquity so deep down, it would never come to resurrection; but there was some shoe that answered to the print in the soil some false keys found in their possession, some bloody knife that whispered of the death, and the public indignation and the anathema of outraged law hurled them into the dungeon or hoisted them on the gallows. Francis I., King of France, stood counseling with his officers how he could take his army into Italy, when Amerli, the fool of the court, leaped out from a corner of the room and said: "You had better be consulting how you will get your army back;" and it was found that Francis I., and not Amerli, was the fool. Instead of consulting as to the best way of getting into sin, you had better consult whether you will be able to get out of it. If the world does not expose you, you will tell it yourself. There is an awful power in an aroused conscience. A highwayman plunged out upon Whitefield as he rode along on horseback, a sack of money on the horse—money that he had raised for orphan asylums, and the highwayman put his hand on the gold and Whitefield turned to him and said: "Touch that if you dare—that belongs to the Lord Jesus Christ." And the ruffian slunk into the forest. Conscience! Conscience! The ruffian had a pistol, but Whitefield shook at him the finger of doom. Do not think you can hide any great and protracted sin in your heart, my brother. In an unguarded moment it will slip off the lip, or some slight action may for the moment set ajar this door that you wanted to keep closed. But suppose that in this life you hide it, and you get along with this transgression burning in your heart, as a ship on fire within your heart, as a ship on fire within for days hinders the flames from bursting out by keeping down the hatches, yet at last in the judgment that iniquity will blaze out before God and the universe.

Learn also from this subject that there is an inseparable connection between all events, however remote. The universe is only one thought of God. Those things which seemed fragmentary and isolated are only different parts of that great thought. How far apart seemed these two events—Joseph sold to the Arabian merchants and his rulership of Egypt, yet you see in what a mysterious way God connected the two into one plan. So the events are linked together. You who are aged men look back and group together a thousand things in your life that once seemed isolated. One undivided chain of events reaches from the Garden of Eden to the cross of Calvary, and thus up to the kingdom of heaven. There is a relation between the smallest insect that hums in the summer and the archangel on his throne. God can trace a direct ancestral line from the bluejay that this spring will build its nest in the tree behind the house to some one of the flock of birds which, when Noah hoisted the ark's window, with a whir and a dash of bright wings, went out to sing over Mount Ararat.

The tulips that bloom in the garden this spring were nursed by the snowflakes. The furthest star on one side of the universe could not look toward the furthest star on the other side of the universe and say: "You are no relation to me," for from that bright orb a voice of light would ring across the heavens responding, "Yes, yes, we are sisters." Nothing in God's universe swings at loose ends. Accidents are only God's way of turning a leaf in the book of his eternal decrees.

From our cradle to our grave there is a path all marked out. Each event in our life is connected with every other event in our life. Our losses may be the most direct road to our gain. Our defeat and our victory are twin brothers. The whole direction of your life was changed by something which at the time seemed trifling, while some occurrence which seemed tremendous affected you but little. God's plans are magnificent beyond all comprehension. He molds us, and turns and directs us, and we know it not. Thousands of years are to him as the flight of a shuttle.

The most terrific occurrence does not make God tremble. The most triumphant achievement does not lift him into rapture. That one great thought of God goes out through the centuries, and nations rise and fall, and ages pass, and the world changes, but God still keeps the undivided mastery, linking event to event and century to century. To God they are all one event, one history, one plan, one development, one system. Great and marvelous are thy works, Lord God Almighty! I was years ago in New Orleans at the exposition rooms, when a telegram was sent to the President of the United States, at Washington, and we waited some fifteen or twenty minutes and then the President's answer came back, and then the presiding officer waved his handkerchief and the signal was sent to Washington that we were ready to have the machinery of the exposition started, and the President put his finger on the electric button, and instantly the great Corliess wheel began to move—rumbling, thundering, rolling, rolling. It was overwhelming, and 15,000 people clapped and shouted. Just one finger at Washington started that vast machinery, hundreds and hundreds of miles away, and I thought then as I think now, that men sometimes touch influences that respond to the far distance, forty years from now, fifty years from now, a thousand years from now—a million years from now—one touch sounding through the ages.

We also learn from this story the property of laying up for the future. During the seven years of plenty, Joseph prepared for the famine, and when it came he had a crowded store-house. The life of most men in a worldly respect is divided into years of plenty and famine. It is seldom that any man passes through life without at least seven years of plenty. During those seven years your business bears a rich harvest. You scarcely know where all the money comes from. It comes so fast. Every bargain you make seems to turn into gold. You contract few bad debts. You are astonished with large dividends. You invest more and more capital. You wonder how men can be content with a small business, gathering in only a few hundred dollars while you reap your thousands. Those are the seven years of plenty. Now, Joseph has time to prepare for the threatened famine, for to almost every man there do come seven years of famine. You will be sick, you will be unfortunate, you will be defrauded, there will be hard times, you will be disappointed, and if you have no storehouse upon which to fall back, you may be famine-struck.

We have no admiration for this denying one's self all personal comfort and luxury for the mere pleasure of hoarding up, this grasping, grasping for the mere pleasure of seeing how large a pile you can get, this always being poor because as soon as a dollar comes in it is sent out to see if it can find another dollar, so that it can carry it home on its back. We have a contempt for all those things, but there is an intelligent and noble- minded forecast which we love to see in men and in women who have families and kindred depending upon them for the blessings of education and home. God sends us to the insects for a lesson, which, while they do not stint themselves in the present, do not forget their duty to forecast the future. "Go to the ant, thou sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise; which, having no guide, overseer, or ruler, provideth her meat in the summer and gathereth her food in the harvest."

Now, there are two ways of laying up money. One of these is to put it in stock and deposit it in bank, and invest it on bond and mortgage. The other way is to lay up money by giving it away. He is the safest who makes both of these investments. There are in this house men who if they lose every dollar they have in the world would be millionaires for eternity. They made the spiritual investment; but the man who devotes none of his gains to the cause of Christ and looks only for his own comfort and luxury is not safe, I care not how the money is invested. He acts as the rose if it should say: "I will hold my breath, and none shall have a snatch of fragrance from me until next week; then I will set all the garden afloat with my aroma." Of course the rose, refusing to breathe, died. But after all, lay up treasures in heaven. They never depreciate in value. You may feel safe now with your $1,000 or $2,000 or $10,000 or $20,000 income, but what will such an income be worth after you are dead? Others will get it. Perhaps some of them will quarrel about it before you are buried. They will be so impatient to get hold of the will, they will think you should be buried one day sooner than you are buried. They will be right glad when you are dead. They are only waiting for you to die. What then will all your earthly accumulations be worth? If you gathered it all in your bosom and walked up with it to heaven's gate, it would not purchase your admission. Or if allowed to enter, it would not buy you a crown or robe, and the poorest saint in heaven would look down at you and say: "Where did that pauper come from?" May we all have treasures in heaven. Amen!

Growth of Language.

"Look here," said the editor, "you include in this poem a line about the earth cycling around the sun."

"Yes," replied the poet confidently, "and I'll stand by it. That line, sir, is not only an example of polished expression, but it is astronomically correct."

"Mebbe so. But it won't go here. 'Cycling around the sun!'" he repeated, scornfully. "Why don't you take the earth and put bloomers on it and be done with it?"—Washington Star.

Disobeyed.

Irate Patron—You advertise to cure consumption, don't you?

Dr. Quack—Yes, sir. I never fail when my instructions are followed.

Irate Patron—My son took your medicine for a year and died an hour after the last dose.

Dr. Quack—My instructions were not followed. I told him to take it two years.—Boston Post.

Speed AND Comfort

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$100 to all alike. We knew them to be the best. While all others were experimenting with various devices, we were co-operating with the makers of these famous tires in bringing them to perfection. Now they and we are years ahead of all rivalry in experience and results. The Hartford Single-Tube tire, like every detail of Columbias, is

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MRS. GOOLD'S GRATITUDE

HOW SHE WAS RESTORED TO HEALTH.

Condition Before and After the Birth of Her Child.

From every city, town and hamlet in this vast continent, come letters from suffering women; from those whose physicians have been unable to assist them, or from that numberless class whose confidence in Mrs. Pinkham's advice and the curative properties of her Vegetable Compound is unbounded.

Every letter received from women is recorded, and hundreds of volumes of cases treated aid in furnishing practical information for the women of to-day. No letters are published without the request of the writer. The strictest confidence is observed. The following letter represents thousands:—

"I always enjoyed good health until six months before the birth of my babe. Then I was very weak; my back ached all the time. My physicians said I would be all right after the birth of the child, but I was not, although at that time I had the best of care. The pains in my back were almost unbearable. I had leucorrhœa in its worst form; menstruations were painful.

"Any work or care would entirely unnerve me. When my babe was 11 months old, friends persuaded me to take Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. Before I had taken one bottle I felt the effects. My back did not ache so badly, and I felt stronger. After taking four bottles I felt well. My ambition returned, menstruations were painless, leucorrhœa entirely cured, and I could take care of my babe and do my housework. I shall always recommend your Vegetable Compound for all women, especially for young mothers."—Mrs. H. L. Goold, Oregon, Wis.

If Mrs. Goold had been well before the birth of her child, subsequent suffering would have been avoided. Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound should always be taken before and after birth, in order that the system may withstand the shock.

CEMENTING THE DEAD.

A PROCESS THAT SECURES A CAST OF THE BODY.

Described by an Advocate Who Had Two Daughters Buried in This Way.

Cementation is the name given to a method of disposing of dead bodies which has now a considerable number of advocates.

The most remarkable and curious result of cementation is that it would preserve a perfect cast of the body.

This system, it is claimed, has all the sanitary advantages of cremation, while it avoids the destruction of the body, which is repulsive to the sentiment of many. If not most, people. Cementation has already been put in practice. Several human bodies have been buried in cement. These have not been exhumed, but the bodies of several animals so treated have been taken up and found to justify the claims made for the method.

The most conspicuous apostle of cementation is Judge Theodore G. Hulett, of Niagara Falls, N. Y., say the New York World. Through his efforts it has been the prevailing mode of burial at Oakwood cemetery, near Niagara Falls. The first body cemented there was his daughter; the next body another of his daughters. Since that time about sixty bodies have been buried in cement.

There are two processes of cementation—one by imbedding the coffin in cement, the other by pouring the cement around the nude body. When the first method is used it is necessary to prepare the body with antiseptics in order to preserve it thoroughly. This method is the one commonly used at the cemetery. The other method is the one which Judge Hulett has prescribed by will shall be used in his own case. It preserves a perfect cast of the body.

The cementing of a grave as practiced at Oakwood cemetery is described by Judge Hulett as follows: The grave is made of the usual depth and sixteen inches larger than the rough box that is to contain the coffin. A concrete mortar is then prepared of fresh water, lime, cement, sand and fine broken stone, the proportions of which are one part cement to three of sand and broken stone.

This mixture is put in the bottom of the excavation to the thickness of about eight inches; the rough box is laid upon this cement so as to leave a space of about eight inches on all sides between the earth and the box. The concrete is poured into the space around the box. It is well stirred with a wooden point, so as to make it of an even consistency. This part of the work may be done the day before the burial.

After the coffin has been lowered into the box a lid is screwed on to the latter, and then a "coat" of cement eight inches thick is laid on the lid. Care must be taken that the cement unites perfectly with that surrounding the sides of the box.

When the top coat of cement is hardened, the name of the deceased and any other words may be carved on it. These will last almost forever.

In the other method of cementation, which Judge Hulett considers preferable, the body is laid nude in a rough box. It is supported by a number of unburned bricks. Cement is then poured in until it completely surrounds the body and fills the box. When it is hardened the inscription is made on the top and the lid is screwed on. All this work may be done by the undertaker, who will have the body completely cemented for the funeral ceremony.

This last is the ideal method of the advocates of cementation. It preserves forever the form and features of the dead and saves the expense of clothing, costly coffins and other features of the common system of burial. It also provides a perfect guarantee against the dangers to public health of the decomposition of animal matter. The cement for all practical purposes prevents the gases of the body from escaping and reaching the earth. There would be no process of decomposition similar to that which takes place when the body is exposed to the air.

The body would wither very slowly, and the block of cement would therefore preserve in its interior a perfect mould of the body of the dead. It would be possible to open the block and obtain a perfect cast of the body.

If this process should be universally adopted, future generations would know exactly what the great dead looked like. They would not have to rely on the imaginative works of sculptors and painters.

An economical advantage of the method is that the blocks of cement could be placed, one on top of the other, in the earth, whereas now a coffin must be a considerable distance below the surface.

A BODY BURIED IN CEMENT.

TO MARRY A GODDESS.

Her Likeness Familiar to All On the Big Silver Dollar.

The announcement that the goddess of liberty is about to be married has aroused new interest in the woman whose face is known to more people than that of any other woman of the American continent. Every man, woman or child who has a silver dollar carries the handsome profile of the Philadelphia school teacher, Miss Anna W. Williams. Her classic features have been stamped upon millions of the silver disks.

It is 20 years since the pretty blonde girl became world famous. It was then stated that Miss Williams's profile was the original of the goddess of liberty on that much abused, much-admired and equally much-disliked Bland silver dollar.

MISS WILLIAMS.

The friends of the young woman placed every obstacle in the way of possible identification, but failed in the object. The story of how Miss Williams came to be the goddess of liberty may be retold, now that it is said she is soon to become a bride.

In the early part of 1876 the Treasury Department secured, through communication with the royal mint of England, the services of a clever young designer and engraver named George Morgan. Upon his arrival in this country Mr. Morgan was installed in the Philadelphia mint and was assigned the task of making a design for a new silver dollar. After many months of labor the young engraver completed the design for the reverse side of the coin, upon which he represented the American eagle. His attention was then turned to the other side, and his original inclination was to place on it a fanciful head representing the goddess of liberty. But the ambitious designer was too much of a realist to be satisfied with a mere product of fancy. Finally he determined the head should be the representation of some American girl, and forthwith diligently searched for his beauteous maid.

It was a long search, although pleasant. He told his friends of his desires, and one of them spoke of the really classic beauty of Miss Anna Williams. The English designer was introduced to the girl. Mr. Morgan was at once impressed by her beautiful face and studied it carefully. Then he told her what he desired, and she promptly refused to permit herself to be the subject of the design. Her friends, however, induced her to pose before an artist. After five sittings the design was completed.

Mr. Morgan was so enthusiastic that he declared Miss Williams's profile was the most nearly perfect he had seen in England or America. His design for the Bland dollar was accepted by Congress, and so the silver coins have been pouring from the mints all these years adorned with the stately face of a Quaker City maiden.

Miss Williams is a decidedly modest young woman. She resides on Spring Garden street, not far from the school in which for years she has been employed as an instructor in philosophy and methods in the kindergarten department. She is slightly below the average height, is rather plump, and is fair. She carries her figure with a stateliness rarely seen and the pose of the head is exactly as seen on the silver dollar. The features of Miss Williams are reproduced as faithfully as in a good photograph.—New York Mail and Express.

HISTORY OF A FAMOUS POEM.

Mrs. Thorpe's Interesting Story of "Curfew Must Not Ring To-Night."

Mrs. Rose Hartwick Thorpe, who wrote the exceedingly popular poem, "Curfew Must Not Ring To-Night," lives in a pretty frame cottage on the Pacific beach, near San Diego, Cal. When asked recently by a representative of the Sunday World to tell how she came to write the poem that has made her famous, she replied:

"I cannot remember when I did not write poetry. I have done so ever since I was a child. My mother did not approve of my writing; in fact, she discouraged it. One day after school I went to my room. I had been studying the historic period of which I was about to write in my poem, and the incident impressed to write about it. I was about half through when my mother came in, saying a young friend had come to spend the afternoon and take tea with me. In great distress, I called out, 'Oh, mother, can't she wait a little while?' My mother, thinking I was solving a hard example in arithmetic, said she would amuse my friend till I could leave. At last I finished it and put it away. Two or three years later I wanted a poem for publication in a Detroit paper for which I had been in the habit of contributing short poems gratuitously. I was unable at the time to write, as usual, an original poem for the next issue, and, on looking over my papers, found this one, which I decided to send, though doubting its acceptance, as it was so long. A day or two afterwards I received a note from the editor complimenting my last contribution highly and prophesying for it great and immediate success."

In 1850 Brown's Bronchial Troches were introduced, and their success as a cure for Colds, Coughs, Asthma and Bronchitis has been unparalleled.

HOW TO COMBINE COLORS.

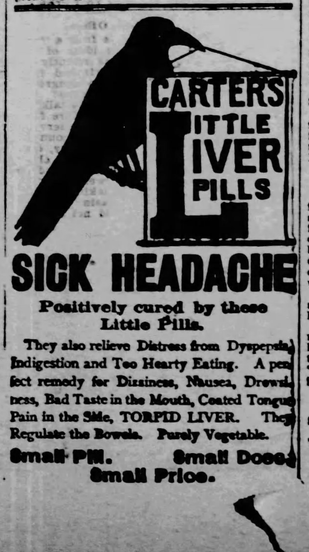
Black Goes Well With Almost All Colors.

Black combines well with almost all colors, except those which are so lacking in brightness as to be too nearly like it. Black and pale pink, blue, yellow, green, red, lavender and even rather dark shades of blue, clear brown and green are excellent combinations.

Brown combines well with yellow, gold and bronze if it is the shade of brown which has brightness. It is effective also with black and with certain tones of green. A chocolate-and-milk brown combines well with old rose and the dull shades of pink.

Very dark green is effective when brightened by linings of narrow trimming of pale blue. A medium shades of green unites well with old pink. Brownish greens look well with bronze and copper color.

Dark blue may be brightened by lines of bright, rich red by lines of old rose or of clear yellow. Blue of the "electric" and "cadet" varieties is best combined with black or white figured silks in which the same shade predominates.



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The Sunday School.

The Rich Man and Lazarus.

LESSON 4, APRIL 26.

GOLDEN TEXT.—Ye can not serve God and mammon.—Luke 16:13.

(Luke 16:19-31. Memory verses 25-28.)

Read Luke 16:1-31.

COMMON VERSION.

19. There was a certain rich man, which was clothed in purple and fine linen, and fared sumptuously every day:

20. And there was a certain beggar named Lazarus, which was laid at his gate, full of sores.

21. And desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man's table: moreover the dogs came and licked his sores.

22. And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom: the rich man also died, and was buried.

23. And in hell he lifted up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom.

24. And he cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame.

25. But Abraham said, Son, remember that thou in thy lifetime receivedst thy good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things: but now he is comforted, and thou art tormented.

26. And beside all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed: so that they which would pass from hence to you can not; neither can they pass to us, that would come from thence.

27. Then he said, I pray thee, therefore, father, that thou wouldst send him to my father's house:

28. For I have five brethren; that he may testify unto them, lest they also come into this place of torment.

29. Abraham saith unto him, They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them.

30. And he said, Nay, father Abraham: but if one went unto them from the dead, they will repent.

31. And he said unto him, If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded, though one rose from the dead.

Illustrative Applications.

There was a certain rich man, and he was clothed in purple and fine linen, faring sumptuously every day (v. 19). There is a tempting picture for you! No need for such a man to pray for daily bread. He has it already at hand. Food, clothing, a good time generally, all are his, because he has money. How nice it is to be rich! That is the way the world looks at it.

A certain beggar was laid at his gate, full of sores, and desiring to be fed with the crumbs that fell from the rich man's table (vs. 20, 21). Poor fellow! Hungry, sick, friendless. That's what comes from being without money. Who wouldn't be rich and comfortable, rather than be poor and wretched? That's the way the world looks at it.

And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and that he was carried away by the angels into Abraham's bosom (v. 22). Angels may have an interest in a man for whom his neighbors have little thought. Even though no friends bring flowers at his funeral, palms from paradise may be waved about him as he is escorted to glory. They have a different way of looking at things in the other world from that which prevails here. What a pity that earthly riches can't buy a letter of credit which will be as good in the next world as in this!

The rich man also died, and was buried. Is that so? Couldn't money buy life? Must a rich man die just as dead as a poor man? Does money have no power to keep its possessor from death? Well, at least, money can buy a big funeral and a first-class tomb, and that is pleasant for a rich man to think of beforehand, and for his family and friends to think of afterwards.

In Hades he lifted up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom (v. 23). There are great changes at death, and reversals of situation. But that rich man wasn't in torments for the next world merely because he had been rich in this, nor was the poor man happy there just because he had been poor here. Bear that in mind. A man will never get to heaven on the ground that he has been poor. It has been said, "There are three kinds of poor: The Lord's poor, the devil's poor, and the poor devils." Nor does a man go to hell simply because he was rich on earth. There are goodly rich men. Abraham himself was rich, and to be near him in heaven is a picture of supreme bliss. This matter of having money or of lacking it is of less importance than the spirit and methods of using one's possessions, or of looking at them.

Son, remember that thou in thy lifetime receivedst thy good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now here he is comforted, and thou art in anguish (v. 25). This may look as if it were a mere matter of equalation, or of penalty, but it's more than that. It's a question of being satisfied with what one has in this life, or of looking forward and upward to something better. A man practically gets what he lives for. If he wants his good things all in this life, he has them here. If he plans for nothing beyond, he finds it, when at last he is there. But if he cares for the present only in the promise and hope of the future, he attains to the object of his living when this life is over. If a man does not realize the importance of his choice while he is having the good things he has desired above all else, he will remember his folly when he looks back on it from the life that is to come.

Between us and you there is a great gulf fixed (v. 26). Souls which have made their choice for eternity are entitled to remain where they want to be. And they do remain there—remain in the place of their choice. A lost soul does not really desire salvation, even though it longs for an easier time in perdition. A cry for water in hell is not a longing for the purity of heaven. The inmates of the two regions are as different as their dwellings. The closing up of the great gulf between heaven and hell would not change the nature of either state, or the character of its dwellers. Any man can be on either side of that gulf he prefers, but he can not be on both sides.

I pray thee that thou would send him to my five brethren, lest they also come into this place of torment (vs. 27, 28). Ungodly men are quite likely to desire godliness, with all its good results, for other people. Even though they are not themselves ready to reform, they would be glad if those who are dear to them would choose a better way than theirs. A gentleman was induced by sheer curiosity to visit a famous gambling house in New York under the guidance of one who was accustomed to frequent it. As the new comer was introduced to the keeper of that house, he said incidentally that he had never before entered such a place. At once the keeper said to him earnestly: "Well, my friend, if you'll take my advice, you'll never come to such a place again. This is no place for those who can keep out of it." There are few intemperate parents who would not wish their children to live and die sober. Sin and its consequences are by no means admirable in the sight of those who are given up to them.

If they hear not Moses and the prophets neither will they be persuaded if one rose from the dead (v. 31). There is little use in discussing the question whether there will be another term of probation beyond this life, while it is very clear that no one would improve it who has already decided that he does not want salvation. The trouble is not that they lack testimonies to keep clear of perdition, but that they are determined to take all the risks of perdition so long as a choice is left to them. They have heard of the two sides of the great gulf, and they have no wish to start just yet toward the side to which Lazarus went.—H. Clay Trumbull in S. S. Times.

Sozodont for the Postage.

A trial bottle of famous "SOZODONT" for the teeth and breath can be had by mail, if you send three cents for postage, and mention this paper. Address, HALL & RUCKEL, New York.

He Got the Message.

An experienced telegraph operator can, from merely listening to the sounds, understand a message on one kind of telegraph instrument without seeing it at all. One day an inspector walked into an office and began to question the clerk in charge. Suddenly a message began to arrive and the clerk sat down to write it. The message was as follows:

"Look out for squalls. The inspector is somewhere on the line and will be poking his nose in everywhere."

The inspector smiled as he listened to the message, while the poor clerk looked quite helpless. His superior, however, went to the instrument and sent back the answer: "Too late. He has already poked his nose in here."—London Tit-Bits.

Didn't Give 'Em Time.

She said she had "never been kissed"—
The sweet little radiant elf!
Then later I learned 'twas because, don't you know,
She did all the kissing herself!
—Town Topics.

HILL'S RHEUMATISM AND GOUT CURE! greatest of remedies! one bottle cures you. HILL MEDICINE CO., 26 East 18th street, New York, N. Y. Send for circulars.

PROPERTIES OF GAS

THE STUDIOUS BOY ASKS A SIMPLE QUESTION—WHAT IS IT?

How Gas Is Made—How It Burns—How the Reservoir Is Managed—Interesting Facts Plainly Told.

A very small percentage of human beings are analytical, and it is a fortunate thing that the majority are not. No one can know everything, and even if he could be a complete cyclopedia of what the whole human family has accumulated, how little would he really know.

Our boy is getting to be a serious problem, says Edwin W. Foster, in the Brooklyn Eagle. So eager is his active brain and so persistent, that we often fear that his strength can not hold out and that he, like other youthful proteges, will become useless in after life or fill an early grave. He is one of the analytical ones and must know the why and how of everything. To a limited extent this is all right, for many of us are too indifferent or lazy to admire and wish to understand the processes of nature, but in his case it seems to be running into a disease. Nothing escapes his notice.

Last evening when the gas was lighted he suddenly exclaimed: "What is gas?"

The father looked at his wife knowingly, shook his head gravely and said, "Come into the library, my boy. I want to talk to you."

When they were inside with the door closed behind them, he said, "My son, do you want to do something for me?"

"Yes, sir; what is it?"

"I want you to play more."

"Play more?"

"Yes. You are studying too hard and are in danger of undermining your health. I wish that after school each clear day you would play with the boys till dark and not read or study any until after dinner."

The boy expostulated that that would leave only two hours before bed time and brought several arguments to bear, but the man was firm. It was the first time the boy had ever shown opposition to any of his father's wishes, and it was probably one of the hardest things the man ever had to do. But it was right, as the child's future health depended on it. So after it was all settled he proceeded to tell him all that he could about the gas we burn in our homes and work shops.

"Of course, the main purpose of gas is to furnish light. Candles furnish light, so does kerosene oil, but both of these have objections. A candle burns but a short time, when it must be replaced by another. It is easily extinguished and gives a small amount of light. Kerosene is an improvement on the candle, but it, too, has objectionable features. There is the constant danger of explosion from an overturned lamp, and this is especially the case when a number of children are playing and romping. It can not explode in a house that is burned for any length of time, and is inexpensive. These facts explain why gas has stood the test for so long. It would not belong to this world if it did not have some detrimental features, but the fact remains that as yet very few of us have replaced it by electricity."

"What gives the light?"

"That question brings us to our chemistry again. The two important things in illuminating gas are hydrogen and carbon. Hydrogen is a highly inflammable gas, and gives more heat for a given quantity than any other known substance. It burns with a flame that is almost invisible and this fact shows that pure hydrogen would be useless for lighting. But

TOLEDO BLADE.

THURSDAY, APRIL 16, 1896.

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TOLEDO BLADE CO.....Publishers.
ROBINSON LOCKE.....Editor.

THE BLADE is a weekly newspaper for intelligent American citizens. It aims to cover, each week, all news topics of real interest to all wide-awake and thinking men. Its editorial page is the strongest and most thoughtful of any in the United States. Its special departments are carefully edited, and the whole paper is intended for the homes of the free American people.

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CIRCULATION LAST WEEK, 100,000

OUR BICYCLE OFFER.

Read our offer of the Toledo Blade bicycle on the fifth page of this issue. The wheel is in all respects up to date; it is of the 1896 pattern, with barrel hubs, and in every detail of the pattern up with the times.

We receive many letters asking for "catalogues," "descriptive lists," etc. We have none. Everything of the sort costs money, and to print them would compel us to add to the price of the wheel. The advertisement contains all the material information which any buyer really needs. If we printed a fine 48-page illustrated catalogue, we could not tell any more, in reality, about the Toledo Blade bicycle than is told in brief in the advertisement.

It is a strong, thoroughly good, 28-pound wheel, built on the 1896 model, in every respect up to date, and the same grade of wheel that retails for $85. Every part is made upon honor by a first-class manufacturing concern.

How can we sell it for $47.50? Because there are no agents' profits to pay, no money needed to put a racing team on the road to advertise it, no expensive posters and illustrated catalogues to pay for. The only persons who make any money are the manufacturers. We sell it at cost price to Blade subscribers. You get just what you would pay $85 for if you went to an agent. Old readers of The Blade know we are in the habit of selling them useful articles at cost, along with their subscriptions, and we had so many requests to furnish bicycles that we made the arrangements for this wheel, as detailed in the advertisement.

You need have no fear in taking the advertisement to mean just what it says. You will find the wheel exactly as represented. If you buy one you will be satisfied with it.

M'KINLEY'S PORTRAIT.

We have had so many inquiries for portraits of Hon. Wm. McKinley, that we have made arrangements for a limited number of a very fine picture which Gov. McKinley himself says is "the finest portrait of myself which has ever been made."

It is printed on excellent plate paper, 22 by 28 inches; the face is life size; printed in black on a tinted background; fac-simile of McKinley's signature below; a work of art which is an ornament to any gentleman's library or parlor.

We will mail a copy of this magnificent portrait, in an extra large and heavy pasteboard tube, to any address, on receipt of only 50 cents.

Or, for one dollar, we will send a copy of the Weekly Blade one year and one copy of the picture. To subscribers who send us $1, we will extend their subscriptions for one year from the date of expiration, and mail a copy of the picture.

Order quickly, for the supply we have will soon be exhausted. Address all orders: "The Blade, Toledo, Ohio."

EXCELLENT SEEDS FREE.

On the 7th page of this issue we publish an offer of garden seeds to the subscribers of the Weekly Blade, of which we believe thousands will be glad to avail themselves. Read it carefully, for you get the best quality of seeds actually free of cost, if you send a subscription or a renewal at the same time.

REMEMBER—This offer is open only to those who remit $1 for subscription or renewal, after this date.

OUR BATTLE PICTURES.

Do not fail to read our offer of splendid battle pictures for renewals or new subscriptions to the Weekly Blade. It will be found in the "Publishers' Column," the first thing on the fifth page.

NOTICE particularly that this offer is ONLY to those who send us $1 for a subscription or renewal, after this date. The pictures are splendid. They are fine enough to ornament the walls of the most magnificent private residence. They are all reproductions of oil paint-historic detail. Read the offer carefully, and avail yourself of it.

ANOTHER BLACK EYE.

Operations of the Treasury in the month just ended are another black eye for the Wilson law. It has added to the enormous deficit which it has already piled up, and the deficiency now amounts to over $75,000,000 against a surplus of $24,000,000 in the corresponding history of the McKinley law. In every feature the new law has been disappointing.

Reducing the rates of duty on many articles on the assumption that this reduction would so largely swell the importations as to increase the customs collections, it has fallen far below marked fixed by the McKinley law in the corresponding period as to customs receipts.

Adding largely to the number of articles on the free list, it has brought into the country less goods free of duty than did the McKinley law in a like period of its history.

Increasing taxes on spirits over 20 per cent. its internal revenue receipts have fallen many millions below those of the corresponding period of the McKinley law.

Promising sufficient revenue to meet the running expenses and create a Treasury surplus, it has fallen $75,000,000 short of the current expenditures, while the McKinley law in a corresponding period of its history created a surplus of nearly one-third that sum.

Purporting to protect the interests of the agricultural community its enactment has been followed by an enormous increase in the importation of agricultural articles and a falling off in the exports of farm products.

Promising to open the doors of foreign countries to native productions it has given smaller exports to agricultural staples and of general merchandise than in any year of the present decade, under either the McKinley tariff or that which immediately preceded it. The exports of agricultural products in the first full calendar year of the new law were $545,714,375, while under the McKinley law the agricultural products averaged $100,000,000 a year greater.

THE SOCIAL LIFE OF THE SALOON.

Those who intelligently seek to consider the drink problem in all its phases are more and more coming to the inevitable conclusion that the drinking habit grows largely out of the social instincts of mankind, especially of the poorer classes, rather than from any inherent purpose to drink for the sake of drinking. And right there we find the reason for the existence of the saloon. It meets the side of a man's life which is real, and the substitute must have the same note and tone if it is to have the same successful appeal to human needs. It is not the drink so much as the good-fellowship which is desired, and it has often been suggested that if free and open clubs were provided, so that men could come together and feel at home, and call them their own, they would be more than a match for the saloon.

There are factors in the daily existence of the workingmen of our cities which can not be ignored in the consideration of the abolition of the saloon, and the necessity of finding an acceptable substitute. We must consider the lives of the city laboring men, who live on poorly cooked food, in narrow limits, and have few of the comforts of home when they are through with the work of the day. When they have had supper, they either go to bed or turn out on the street, and unless there is a congenial place of resort nearby, the saloon is almost sure to draw them in. Where reading and recreation rooms have been provided, and no attempt has been made to do too much for the men, the efforts in their behalf have been most successful.

It has been proved by the actual test of experience that the daily bath, well cooked food and a clean and attractive home are the chief substitutes for that hankering after pleasurable sensations that impels many men to resort to drink. They take away the desire for it, and the substitutes for the saloon are not, therefore, any great and original changes, but chiefly the mending of what is wrong in the daily social life of the people. Meet the instincts that lead men to the saloon in some other sensible and honest way, and the substitute is revealed. It was found that when we go down to the plain facts of life, it is the changing of bad conditions in the lives of the people that chiefly leads to the correction of what is wrong.

The problem is thus shown to be sociological with regard to a large and increasing class of the population. It is the social side of the saloon which makes it such a power in our crowded cities, and which renders it an impossibility, in the belief of many clergymen, scientific men and others who have given the matter much study, to abolish it therein unless some acceptable substitute can be found. If this can be done, the men who now flock into saloons to pass their leisure time will abandon them, and the saloon will die out for lack of patronage. The facts here set forth are worthy the careful study of all who take an intelligent interest in the problem of how to

Pulverize the Rum Power.

TELLER HEDGES.

Senator Teller evidently sees that the free silver at 16 to 1 fallacy has spent its force, and that there is no prospect of forcing a free silver plank into the St. Louis platform. Probably the severe discipline administered to Senator Pettigrew by the South Dakota Republicans caused Mr. Teller to see that his former position is untenable. In an interview at Washington he now says:

> Free silver Republicans will support the St. Louis nominee if he be earnestly, heartily, and sincerely in favor of international bimetallism, and would work earnestly to secure an international agreement. We would have to know that he is not an eleventh-hour convert, and we would have to have something more than platform promise.

That shows a wonderful change of heart since Mr. Teller was declaring in favor of the most extreme measures, and that the free silver men would not support the Republican ticket unless the party declared unequivocally for the immediate adoption of free silver coinage at 16 to 1, without waiting for any other nation.

Now he is willing to support the ticket if the party declares in favor of international bimetallism. His talk of not being satisfied with a platform promise is simply to let himself down easy. He knows very well that a formal declaration in favor of international bimetallism, and the election of a President on that platform, would give notice to the other great commercial nations of the world that we are ready to co-operate with them. It is in the power of Congress at any time to pass a resolution requesting other nations to unite with us in the work. And Mr. Teller knows that any President elected on that platform would carry its promise out, so far as lay in his power.

The importance of Mr. Teller's pronouncement in favor of international agreement lies in the fact that it is a definite abandonment of the 16 to 1 ratio. The remonetization of silver by all the nations now on the gold standard could not bring silver bullion up to $1.29 an ounce. The market ratio is now about 31 to 1. A new coinage ratio by international agreement would necessarily have to approximate to that pretty closely. Senator Teller is thus frank enough to admit that there is no hope of separate action by the United States on the 16 to 1 ratio. The free silver men should ponder his action carefully. They will see that the men they stigmatize as "gold bugs" are not opposed to the use of silver at a ratio that will not depreciate the present standard of values, but are opposed to a coinage ratio that is not based on the market ratio.

OHIO'S ANTI-LYNCHING LAW.

Ohio now has an anti-lynching law, the Smith bill having passed House and Senate. The law holds the county responsible for lynchings and attempted lynchings. Relatives of the person lynched can recover from the county not to exceed $5,000, or if the person in an attempted lynching is injured he can recover from the county to the extent of his injuries. The responsibility of the sheriff is thus increased; for, aside from his duty in upholding the law and protecting his prisoners, he must stand against heaping a debt upon his county. The law is all right, for too many safeguards cannot be thrown about a prisoner to protect him from mob violence and permit him to have a fair and impartial trial.

The workingmen of Connecticut—the 'men with the tin dinner pails"— are said, by a correspondent of the New York Evening Post, a bitter free trade sheet, to be "beyond question very strongly for the Ohio candidate," McKinley. They are tired of the dull times and short hours of work in the Connecticut shops and mills, and identify McKinley with full-time hours and prosperity.

Mr. Cleveland has a magnificent chance to distinguish himself by carrying out the spirit of the Cuban resolutions. Will he avail himself of it, or is he indifferent to the opinion of the mass of the American people?

Henry Cabot Lodge is talked of in New England as a running mate for McKinley.

Quay begins to evince a desire to get on the band wagon.

SOME TREASURY FIGURES.

The present administration began its tenure of office with both the executive and legislative departments of the government completely in the hands of the Democratic party. This is the first time that party has had full power since 1860. It is of vital interest to the people of the United States to compare Democratic administration of national affairs with that of the Republicans as a means of determining which policy is the better.

Naturally the most interest is in the management of national finances. The people of this country do not approve of debt-making by the government. One of the chief sources of condemnation of the present administration is that it has added to the nation's bonded debt in time of peace, when proper legislation, supplemented by proper administration, would have rendered it needless.

Frequent inquiries have been made recently of the Blade for a comparison of the financial record of Cleveland's administration with that of Harrison's. We sent to Washington to obtain the official figures used in this article, so that their correctness cannot be questioned.

First, as to the money in the treasury. Below we give the "surplus in the treasury" at the dates named. This "surplus" is the money on hand, excluding that held against gold, silver and currency certificates:

	Surplus.
March 4, 1885—Cleveland's inauguration	$199,744,172
March 4, 1889—Harrison's inauguration	266,404,441
March 4, 1893—Cleveland's inauguration	124,128,089

It will be remembered that one of the campaign cries of the Democrats in 1884 was over the "surplus," which was represented as an evil, and this was made the plea for a reduction of the tariff. But the Senate was Republican throughout Cleveland's first term, and the Democrats had not the power to begin tariff smashing. Under Harrison, the tariff was revised by the passage of the McKinley law, which reduced the revenue, still leaving it large enough for all governmental needs.

The next item of interest is the amount of gold in the treasury. The total amount of gold, including the $100,000,000 reserve, was as follows on the same dates:

	Gold in Treasury.
March 4, 1885	$127,346,553
March 4, 1889	106,245,980
March 4, 1893	103,284,219

But the chief interest is in the debt-paying record of the government under Republican financial management, as compared with the debt-making record of the present administration. It is to be remembered that, under the Harrison administration the Republican tariff brought in abundant revenue for debt reduction, while during Cleveland's present term, under a Democratic tariff, there is not enough revenue to meet the current expenses of the government, without attempting any bond redemption. Here are the figures:

Bonds cancelled and retired, Harrison's term, 1889-92	$259,071,960
Bonds refunded, Harrison's term	25,364,500
Bonds cancelled and retired, Cleveland's second term	None

The bonds refunded were bearing 5 per cent interest, and were extended at 2 per cent, thus saving 3 per cent in interest.

The national debt was decreased under Harrison's administration; there were no new bonds issued. The record of Cleveland's debt-making so far is as follows:

1894 (February)	$50,000,000
Interest 10 years at 5 per cent.	25,000,000
1894 (November)	50,000,000
Interest 9½ years at 5 per cent.	23,750,000
1895	62,315,400
Interest 30 years at 4 per cent.	74,778,480
1896	100,000,000
Interest 29 years at 4 per cent.	116,000,000
Total	$501,843,880

The superiority of Republican methods of finance is thus demonstrated with clearness. Aside from the depression in business, and the Democratic hard times, caused by unsound methods, and an insufficient revenue law, the Cleveland administration will leave a legacy of $501,000,000 of debt, which the people must pay as the price of putting the Democratic party into full control in 1892. We believe they will remedy that error this year by electing a Republican President and a Republican Congress, so that the defective Democratic legislation may be repealed, and the Republican policy be substituted in its stead.

A BOOM FOR RECIPROCITY.

Members of the House ways and means committee who have followed the responses received by Chairman Hopkins, of the sub-committee on reciprocity, state that the great business organizations of the country boards of trade, chamber of commerce and business exchanges of all sorts whether they deal in grain, or cotton, or provisions, or live stock, or iron, or wool, or stocks, or manufactured articles, are unanimous in their expressions in favor of reciprocity as exemplified in the McKinley law.

Not a single one has expressed itself in other than favorable terms, and in many cases their expressions have been as strong as words could make them. Manufacturers, millers and grain dealers generally are very earnest in their expression in favor of reciprocity, as are exporters in nearly every line of goods.

Occasionally there is an instance of a manufacturer who says that the reduction of tariff rates on flour, provisions and certain lines of manufactures results in the raising of duties upon articles not included in the reciprocal arrangements, but in nine cases out of ten, probably 99 out of 100, the expressions are favorable to the restoration of reciprocity upon a basis similar to that of the McKinley act.

AFTER 1,500 YEARS.

The revival of the Olympic games in Greece is of sentimental and historical interest, and the enormous attendance, taxing the capacity of the 80,000 seats in the rebuilt stadion, shows how deep a feeling has been excited among the Greeks by their revival. They were originally established by Lycurgus and Iapetus, King of Elis, in the fifth century before Christ, and continued to be celebrated every fourth year until their abolition by the Emperor Theodosius the Great in A. D. 394—fifteen hundred and two years ago.

Theodosius was a Christian, and his reason for the abolition of the games was a religious one. They were originally connected with the pagan worship of ancient Greece, and always retained more or less of this character. When the world became Christian, they were regarded as a relic of paganism, and Theodosius consequently abolished them. There is of course no religious significance to their revival; it is due entirely to the patriotic feeling of the Greek people, who cherish proudly the glories of the classic era of their fatherland.

The New York legislature has passed a bill requiring railway companies to carry bicycles free, as baggage of their owners, if a release from damages is given. Governor Morton will undoubtedly sign the bill. If the railroads do not voluntarily adopt this plan, the indications are that many of the other states will adopt similar legislation.

Commander Booth-Tucker, of the Salvation Army, has, in proper legal form, declared his intention of becoming an American citizen. This is a move to head off Ballington Booth's Volunteers, by depriving them of the argument that the Salvation Army is headed by an alien.

M'KINLEY'S RECORD ON SILVER.

The anti-McKinley Republicans have attempted to check the rushing tide of public opinion in favor of McKinley by hunting out, from the files of the Congressional Record, his votes on the silver question. The record is this:

McKinley voted in the 45th Congress, November 5, 1877, in favor of the Bland bill, for the coinage of silver at 16 to 1.

This bill went to the Senate, where it was amended into the form in which it subsequently became a law. When the bill came back to the House, McKinley voted in favor of agreeing to the Senate amendments.

President Hayes vetoed this bill on February 28, 1878, and the bill was passed over his veto, McKinley voting "yea" on the question: "Shall the bill pass, notwithstanding the President's veto?"

In the Forty-ninth Congress, a bill was introduced to amend the Bland bill by suspending the purchase of silver until an international agreement should be made. McKinley voted against this bill.

That is the record. Now let us examine the matter, and see what those votes mean.

In 1877, at the time the Bland bill, to admit silver to free coinage at 16 to 1, was passed by the House, the bullion value of the silver dollar was 94 or 95 cents. One of the strongest arguments raised in the House in favor of the bill was that the more extended demand thus made for silver would cause a rise in the price, so that the bullion in the silver dollar would be worth as much as a gold dollar. Men were in favor of that bill at that time who are utterly opposed to free coinage now, when the silver dollar is worth, as bullion, only about 54 cents.

It seemed reasonable then to suppose that, with free coinage, the price of silver would appreciate enough to close the gap of 5 or 6 cents between the values of the gold and the silver dollars. It is absurd, at the present time, to suppose that it would close the gap of 46 cents between them. The conditions have changed entirely, and a man who believed so in 1877 certainly can not believe so now.

Now, as to the second vote. The Senate amended the Bland bill, by requiring the purchase of not less than $2,000,000 worth of silver per month and its coinage into silver standard dollars. The reason for this action was that the majority of the Senate did not believe free coinage would increase the value of silver. They reasoned that production would increase, and silver fall, instead of rise; and that we would consequently drop to the silver standard. At the same time it was felt certain that we could carry a reasonable amount of legal tender silver in our currency, as France was doing. So the above amendment was made.

When the bill went back to the House, the adoption of the Senate amendment was urged on this ground: that the purchase of $2,000,000 worth of bullion per month would cause the price of silver to rise, and that as soon as it touched $1.29 per ounce, at which figure the silver dollar would be at par with the gold dollar, the only objection to granting free coinage would be removed, and it would be easy to pass a bill to that effect.

But the predictions of the silver men were not fulfilled. The production of silver increased, and the price slowly went down year by year. It became clearly evident that free coinage at 16 to 1 would mean simply to abandon the gold standard and drop to the silver standard.

The third vote of McKinley simply means that he did not think the amount of legal tender silver in circulation at that time large enough to endanger the currency, or that there was any real fear of a drop to the silver standard, as the proportion of silver in our currency was not as great as France carried without difficulty.

As to his present attitude, the Ohio financial plank defines it. He desires bimetallism, not monometallism; and no one knows better than he that the free coinage of silver at 16 to 1 means silver monometallism. The Ohio plank means the maintenance of the present standard of values—the gold standard—if it means anything; and favors the use of silver in any way that will not cause a change in the standard, or the driving of gold to a premium.

We have no doubt that the St. Louis convention will declare squarely against the free coinage of silver at 16 to 1. If McKinley is nominated, he will be pleased on that platform, and will carry out its provisions. Of that every one can be assured.

M'KINLEY AND FREE SILVER.

The papers which are endeavoring to check the McKinley movement by the assertion that the distinguished Ohioan is an advocate of free silver at 16 to 1, have carefully omitted to quote McKinley's later utterances on this subject. They go back to the time he was in Congress a numbzer of years ago, when the conditions of the silver question were quite different from those at present existing. We will refresh their memories by recounting an incident of the campaign of 1891, when McKinley was a candidate for governor of Ohio, and James E. Campbell was his opponent.

Campbell announced to the voters of Ohio that he was ready to "chance it" on the free coinage of silver. McKinley referred to this in his answer, and rebuked Campbell in this wise:

> My worthy opponent should not "chance" anything with a question of such vital and absorbing interest as the money of the world. Unlike my opponent, I will not ask you to take any chances on this question; I will clearly and unequivocally say to you that my choice and influence are in favor of the best money that the ingenuity of man has devised. The people are not prepared to indulge in the speculation of free and unlimited coinage.

There is in this no ground for the assumption that McKinley is for free silver at 16 to 1. There has been no change in the situation since 1891, and the people are now no more prepared than they were "to indulge in the speculation of free and unlimited coinage."

Major McKinley is a progressive man. His record on the currency question is one of growth; of not committing himself to a policy, irrespective of changing conditions. A man might honestly believe in 1878—eighteen years ago—that a difference of 5 or 6 cents in the bullion value of the gold and the silver dollars would be bridged over by an appreciation of silver due to its increased use for coinage. But no intelligent, progressive man to-day can believe that the present difference of 46 cents in their values can be bridged by any means whatever. It will take international remonetization, at a new ratio, based on the market values of the two metals, to rehabilitate silver.

BICYCLES GOING.

We have, during the past week, received a number of orders for Toledo Blade bicycles, and we anticipate soon to have enough to take the whole of the one hundred we ordered for the first lot.

We expect within a reasonable time after receiving their wheels, to hear from those who have already purchased. We want them to try the wheel thoroughly, and then write us exactly what they think of it. These letters we will publish for the information of others.

Quay says he is surprised at McKinley's strength. He means he is surprised that the people have risen superior to the would-be bosses, and insist on having McKinley.

The McKinley Postal Cards.

The readers of the Weekly Blade acted promptly on our suggestion that those who favor the nomination and election of McKinley should send a postal card stating that fact. The suggestion was published in our issue of Thursday, March 26. On Friday, the 27th, a few cards from points in Ohio arrived, the next day brought more, and for the next ten days their number continued to grow until The Blade cards became the largest portion of the Major's mail. Then the cards fell off at about the same rate, until now only a few arrive each day.

The sentiments expressed on the cards are assurances of high regard for Major McKinley and of deep interest in the success of his candidacy. Some write of the principle—protection— which has made McKinley most prominent, and many express confidence in the ability of the grand old party to rescue the country from its present dilemma. The variety of the sentiments is almost as great as the number of writers, but all are in the same vein, showing the deep-rooted affection for Major McKinley in the hearts of the people.

One noticeable feature of the cards is the wide range of territory covered by the postmarks. They seem to come from all quarters. That many of them would make make interesting reading there is no doubt, but the postal cards, like all of the Major's mail, are treated as personal matter, and nothing of their contents is allowed to be published.

NEW VARIETIES OF CORN.

In response to a number of requests, we offer our subscribers two new varieties of Indian corn on very advantageous terms. Read the advertisement on the fifth page carefully, and see if you do not want to try one or both of them. They are excellent, and you will be glad you made the trial.

COMMENT OF THE WEEK.

Count von Kotz has taken another installment of revenge for his arrest in connection with the anonymous-letter scandal at Berlin. He announced that he would demand satisfaction from everybody connected with the affair, and on yesterday fought the third duel of the series with the result that Baron von Schrader, the Master of Ceremonies of the Prussian court, received a wound from which he is not expected to recover.

Mayor Wurster, of Brooklyn, has transmitted to the legislature of New York a communication declining to accept the provisions of the Greater New York bill as far as the city of which he is the chief executive is concerned. His main objection to the measure is that while under favorable conditions and on fair terms the consolidation of the municipalities may be submitted to the people for their approval of rejection, he cannot feel that justice will be done the city of Brooklyn.

The House committee on the judiciary has made considerable progress with the bankruptcy bill before it. Whether the progress has been in a direction which will commend itself to the commercial community will be better determined when the exact form of the bill, as settled by the committee, shall have been made public. As far as can be judged from the reports at hand, the measure, in its present shape, is in the nature of a compromise between those demanding a law for voluntary bankruptcy only and those who advocate provision for involuntary bankruptcy. Current accounts say that the measure has been stripped of the "severe" features of the Torrey bill. The title to the property of the bankrupt does not pass from him until actual adjudication.

In the Senate the judiciary committee has agreed upon a favorable report on the voluntary bankruptcy bill. According to press advices, this bill provides that any debtor owing $200 or more may make a voluntary assignment before any competetent authority of all his property, except that exempt under the law, for the benefit of his creditors equally. He is required to file a full list of all his property, exempt or unexempt, and of his creditors. Preferences are allowed only to debts due the United States, to any state or territory, to servants or laborers for service performed within one year, and to liens or incumbrances on the homesteads to the extent of $1,000. The debtor is allowed to file a petition in the United States District court four months after making his assignment, asking to be discharged from his debts, which the court is authorized to grant after due proceedings for the protection of creditors and the observance of the law. This discharge shall not include any debt which may have been created in consequence of defalcation as a public office nor as guardian or trustee, or while acting in any fiduciary character. The law is to remain in force for two years only. The fact that the two committees are proceeding on different lines does not argue well for the enactment of a desirable bankruptcy law by the present Congress.

Australia is moving rapidly in the direction of effecting a federation of all her colonies. The premiers, at a recent meeting, declared "federation is essential to any complete scheme of Australian defense." The legislatures of New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia and Tasmania have already passed a federal enabling act and Queensland's legislature will consider it as soon as it assembles. This measure provides for a popular election of ten delegates by each colony who will meet and frame a federal constitution, probably based on the draft of the Sydney conference of 1891. An adjournment for popular discussion will then be taken, after which another session will be held and the matter further considered. The constitution thus prepared will be submitted to a vote of the people in each colony, and, if accepted by three colonies, the British parliament will be requested to approve it to the extent of federating those colonies which voted on it affirmatively. Thus, it will be seen, the Australian colonies are in a fair way of coming together in a federative union resembling that of the Dominion of Canada. The advantages of this are so obvious that it is very strange it meets with any resistance at all.

The bill providing for the inspection of immigrants by United States consuls, which has been for some time under consideration by the House immigration committee, has just been reported to the House. In the report accompanying the measure the committee says that the object of the measure is to enforce existing laws, and such law as may be hereafter be passed by Congress restricting immigration. Statistics show, says the report, that with a foreign population of 14.77 per cent, more than half of our white penitentiary convicts, and more than half of the white inmates of our poorhouses, are foreigners, and prove that of the immigrants coming here during the past few years too many are deficient in morals, and are incapable physically of self-support. The bill does not add to the excluded list of immigrants. The committee does not agree with the chief objection urged against the measure, viz., that it cannot be enforced, and argues that it is self-enforcing. A number of members of the committee, it is said, are opposed to the bill, and it is probable a minority report will be made.

The little armored ram Katahdin was surprisingly successful in her twelve hours' trip at sea on April 8. She ran right into the teeth of a violent gale, and her low deck was continually submerged by huge masses of water. Yet under natural draught she easily maintained an average speed of about thirteen knots and her seaworthiness was thoroughly demonstrated. In rough water like that which she encountered her hull would have been practically invisible to the gunners of an enemy, while a single sharp blow from her steel ram would have sent the most formidable battleship in the world to the bottom. Craft like the Katahdin are cheap, quickly constructed and form an important auxiliary force for coast defense. It might be well to build several more of them. When not required for active service they could be laid up in ordinary, like our coast defense monitors, and the cost of keeping them would be very slight. This is well worth our naval authorities' attention.

Statistics of money in circulation show that during the month of March there was a slight net decrease amounting to only $112,594. National bank notes led in the list of items of increase, with a gain of $5,653,650. Next in order came silver certificates, with an increase of $4,486,483. The other gains were of $1,635,000 in currency certificates and $618,665 in gold coin. The leading item among the decreases was a gain of $8,170,091 in United States notes. Treasury notes showed an increase of $2,345,584, and there were also increases of $773,758 in subsidiary silver, of $723,189 in standard silver dollars, and $493,770 in gold certificates.

Miss Clara Barton's dispatches to the effect that the Turks are not interfering with the relief work now in progress, and that the missionaries are not disturbed, is in flat contradiction to the reports we have received that the American missionaries are to be ordered out of Turkey by the sultan. It may be, however, that both are true in general effect and that Turkey is anxious to get rid of two or three missionaries who are specially disliked by the Turkish government. According to a Washington dispatch our government is discussing the status of American missionaries in Turkey in view of the most-favored nation clause in our treaty with that country. The French missionaries enjoying certain immunities in Turkey in virtue of a treaty with France, our government is reported to maintain that American missionaries must, under the most-favored nation clause, be given the same privilege as those of France.

The story of the discovery of the North Pole by Nansen has not yet been confirmed, and there is no proof that Nansen himself has been seen or even has survived the perils of his expedition. The probable origin of the recent report is that a party of men hunting for mammoths' tusks on the New Siberian Islands returned to the mainland and said that they had seen a vessel with Europeans on board near the islands. A trader named Kandakoff heard them relate this story and, concluding rightly that if a vessel was seen as reported it must be Nansen's, wrote to an uncle in Irkutsk, Eastern Siberia, that Nansen was returning and had discovered the pole. It may be several months before the truth concerning what, if anything, the hunters referred to above really saw will be known unless, in the meantime, Nansen and his party should succeed in getting back and in touch again with their fellow men.

Right-minded people everywhere will emphatically condemn the recent action of the Mormon church in promulgating a rule requiring that no member of that body shall be permitted to accept a political nomination or hold public office without first obtaining the consent of the church authorities. This is an arrogant attempt on the part of the Mormon priesthood to dictate the politics of its followers, and it is gratifying to note that many of them have manhood enough to resent it. No principle is held in more sacred regard by the American people than that which decrees the separation of church and state, but if any relaxation of it were ever allowed it would not be in favor of an institution which was originally based upon the degradation of womanhood. Of late Mormonism has been on its good behavior. Its leaders should be careful how they swerve from that line of conduct.

Reciprocity.

No feature of the McKinley law was more popular with both the farmers and the business community than that of reciprocity. Business men, without regard to politics, are clamoring for a return to it. This is shown by the enormous number of letters in its behalf received by Speaker Reed, Chairman Dingley of the ways and means committee, and Chairman Hopkins of the sub-committee on reciprocity. One letter recently received by Speaker Reed says: "The McKinley law helped us on account of the reciprocity clause attached to it. During the two years it continued our mill alone sold a million dollars' worth of flour to Cuba. The blow that destroyed it has struck hard."

The Commercial Milling company, of Detroit, in a letter to Speaker Reed, says: Reciprocity would give the farmer better prices for his wheat and create more markets, and at the same time be a feather in the cap of the politician who will bring it about."

The Isaac Harter Milling company, of Fostoria, O., says: "Since reciprocity has been repealed we have practically lost all our Cuban trade, which amounted to about 75,000 barrels per year to this mill alone."

It is from the expressions of the business organizations of the country, however, that the strongest endorsements of reciprocity came. The following extracts from resolutions of and communications from the great commercial bodies of the country as a most remarkable endorsement of the reciprocity features of the McKinley law.

The National Board of Trade says: "We urgently demand of Congress the enactment of such legislation as will establish and secure our former reciprocal trade relations."

The Merchants' Exchange, of St. Louis, says: "In the judgment of this body, re-enactment of a reciprocal law would be of immense value, and result in the extension of trade relations to an equal or greater extent than existed at the time of the reciprocal act."

The Cleveland Chamber of Commerce says: "The reciprocal arrangements under the tariff of 1890 were favorable to the foreign commerce of the United States; their repeal in 1894 was a decided detriment."

The Milwaukee Chamber of Commerce: "Board of directors of this chamber is its deliberative body, and has expressed itself unanimously in favor of the renewal of the reciprocity arrangements and commercial treaties negotiated under the tariff act of 1890."

Cincinnati Chamber of Commerce: "The principle of reciprocity between countries having exchangeable products is commendable in the highest degree, and should be fostered to the end of promoting the interests of all concerned."

Sioux City Commercial Association: "The reciprocal arrangement under the act of 1890 had a stimulating effect upon our commerce along many lines, and particularly with those South American countries which accepted the theory and assisted in carrying out the idea; the repeal of reciprocity by the act of 1894 has, in the judgment of many business men of the country, been damaging."

The Millers' Association of the United States: "It is the firm and unanimous conviction of all flour manufacturers in this country that the restoration of the reciprocity arrangement to future tariff legislation is not only expedient and feasible, but an absolute necessity to the prosperity of flour milling in the United States."

The Manufacturers' Association of Kings and Queens counties, N. Y.: "This association wishes to be placed on record in favor of treaties of reciprocity, giving as its reasons therefore the past history of the country and its present requirements."

National Association of Manufacturers: "The practical proof of the reciprocity arrangements under the act of 1890 demonstrated without question the ability of treaties to extend our foreign trade under exceedingly favorable conditions."

THE BLADE ATLAS.

The following unsolicited letter, from a gentleman who purchased The Blade's Atlas in parts, tells how our readers are pleased with it:

> Adamsville, Pa., March 27, 1896.—Publishers Blade: I desire to express my high estimation of the series of maps, ordered through you, and received a day or two ago. I mean the series published by the Rand McNally Co., Chicago. They are full and clear and satisfactory—much more so than any series of the kind I have seen. At the price almost any one can secure a set, and they are adapted to increase the clearness of apprehension of what is read, even by the most unlearned and illiterate. You have done a good thing for the country in taking measures to secure a wide circulation. Allow me to express my thanks for my share of the benefits enjoyed through it, and to express my high satisfaction with it, and to hope that you will be proportionately rewarded. Yours, much obliged, S. M. BROWN.

SOME ALTITUDES.

The Eiffel Tower is 990 feet.
The Rock of Gibraltar is 1470 feet.
The famous tower of Utrecht is 464 feet.
Mount Pilatus, in the Alps, is 9650 feet high.
Bunker Hill monument is 220 feet in height.
The Holland dykes are from 10 to 40 feet in height.
Mount Hecla, 5000 feet, is the highest in Iceland.
The Brooklyn bridge is 278 feet above the river.
The porcelain tower at Nankin was 248 feet high.
Carthage is the highest town in Kansas, 5,009 feet.
Harvard is the highest land in Colorado, 14,432 feet.
A part of New Orleans is below the level of the river.
Vesuvius, the famous Italian volcano, is 3,932 feet high.
The Sea of Galilee is 653 feet below the Mediterranean.
Mount Ophir, 13,800 feet high, is the tallest in Summatra.
Alta is the highest town in Iowa, 1,519 feet above sea level.
The Dead Sea, in Palestine, is 1,316 feet below sea level.
Pine Knot is the highest place in Kentucky, 1,428 feet.
The famous Mount Hood, of Oregon, is 11,570 feet high.
Warren is located on the highest land in Illinois, 1,085 feet.
Highland Trail is the highest land in Florida, 210 feet.
The Washington monument is 555 feet from base to tip.
The steeple of the Milan Cathedral is 355 feet in height.
The towers of the Cathedral of Cologne are 511 feet high.
Alaska has four mountains, each over 10,000 feet in height.
The Caspian Sea is 650 feet below the level of the ocean.
The noted steeple of St. Stephen's, in Vienna, is 460 feet.
Mount Rich, 3,569 feet high, is the tallest in South Carolina.
The statue of Liberty, in New York harbor, is 305 feet high.
Altamont is the highest recorded point in Maryland, 2,620 feet.
A large part of Holland is from 10 to 30 feet below sea level.
Mount Emmons, 13,694 feet, is said to be the highest in Utah.
Meade Point, 10,541 feet above the sea, is the highest in Idaho.
There are three mountain peaks in Idaho exceeding 10,000 feet.
One of the highest peaks in the Andes is Sorata, 25,380 feet.
Mount Whitney is the highest peak in California, 14,898 feet.
The greatest altitude in Arizona is San Francisco, 12,562 feet.
Ben Nevis, 4,400 feet, is one of the highest elevations in Scotland.
Porcupine Mount is the highest elevation in Michigan, 2,023 feet.
Mont Parnassus, the home of the Muses, is only 3,800 feet high.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

EARS AND HEARING.

Snakes are believed not to hear well.
Beethoven was the only deaf musical composer.
The ears of the garden slug are located in his neck.
One kind of the medusae has "it is said eighty ears.
One variety of the cricket has its ears in its hind legs.
The ears of the fly are located near the base of his wing.
Most grasshoppers have their ears in the middle of the body.
The cavity of the middle ear is about the size of a kidney bean.
Thomas Holcroft wrote a famous comedy called Deaf and Dumb.
The United States has 480 deaf mutes to the million of population.
In 1864 a national college for deaf mutes was founded at Washington.
Caucasians are more liable to deafness than people of any other race.
All carnivorous animals have small ears, capable of very quick movement.
The blind are generally possessed of a singularly acute sense of hearing.
The crocodile hears remarkably well, and has the rudiment of an outer ear.
The mammalia are the only inferior animals which possess an external ear.
According to late statistics, there are in the United States 40,000 deaf mutes.
There is no creature which possesses a more sensitive hearing than the cat.
Scarlet fever and cerebro-spinal meningitis are frequent causes of deafness.
In 1866 Bell's method of visible speech began to attract widespread attention.
Strange as it may seem, most varieties of jellyfish have no organs of hearing.
The ear is divided by anatomists into the external, the middle, and the internal.
The serous membrane of the interior ear secretes a fluid known as perilymph.
In 1815 the first asylum for deaf and dumb children was founded in London.
The first deaf mute school in Great Britain was established in Edinburgh in 1773.
Deafness does not decrease the chance for life. Deaf people live as long as others.
The large patches of feathers covering on the head of the owl are not in any sense ears.
Pedro de Ponce, a Benedictine monk of Spain, established a school for the deaf in 1570.
The ear of the bird is a small orifice, generally covered very closely with a tuft of feathers.
In many countries in Europe, boring the ears is believed to be a sovereign cure for sore eyes.
In 1765 the Abbe Le Pee established a school at Paris for the benefit of the deaf and dumb.
The inner ear is sometimes denominated the cochlea, from its resemblance to a

SAFE SARSAPARILLA.

You get it when you ask for Ayer's.

WHAT makes Ayer's Sarsaparilla the favorite family remedy?

That's a question worth considering. There is a certain censorship exercised in respect of family affairs which endeavors to defend the home life from dangers

The Mother Watches

the books that are read, the friends that are made, the people and things that are introduced to the family circle.

No parent would bring an unknown person into his home, a person without a known record, no matter what appearance the person in question made, or what position he claimed.

And wise parents are as watchful of medicines as of men. They want to know what the medicine is that they bring into the family, to be sure there is nothing injurious or hurtful in the remedy that is to be intrusted with health or even life itself.

Enquiry shows that Ayer's Sarsaparilla is the only sarsaparilla that presents itself to the home, its "character" in its hand, like a good and honest servant. It takes time to make character. Reputation is of shorter growth; it is what we are said to be or appear to be. Character is

What We Are.

Reputation is like the paint on the actor's face, it can be rubbed off. Character is like the wrinkles and lines that time makes, which cannot be erased. Character is what is graven in granite. Reputation is what is written in sand. Shakespeare well calls reputation a "bubble," and character may well be the medal with its indelible record of achievement. It has taken Ayer's Sarsaparilla half a century to engrave its character.

But its character is fixed. It has rivals who blow great bubbles of reputation. It only points to its medals of merit which are permanent while a million bubbles are blown and burst.

Fifty years of cures. That is the record of Ayer's Sarsaparilla. The record is too plain to be ignored; too great to be imitated.

"You know what your 're getting when you get Ayer's Sarsaparilla." That's the open sesame that admits Ayer's to the family. Ayer's is the only sarsaparilla of which this can be said. The formula of Ayer's Sarsaparilla is sent free to any reputable physician on request, and so the remedy goes into thousands of families by a physician's introduction. The physician knows it is a pure remedy and a safe one. Does this fact strike you with all the force it should? Turn it around. Put it this way: You don't know what you are getting under the name of sarsaparilla, unless you get Ayers. There's a depth of possibility in that statement you will do well to try to fathom. Any chemical compound may be palmed off as sarsaparilla, if you are not permitted to know what you get when you ask for "sarsaparilla."

Family Favorites.

Is there any danger in this? So much danger, that the World's Fair Commissioners, at Chicago, in 1893, would admit no other sarsaparilla to the Fair but Ayer's, shutting out all others because they were secret, therefore to be classed as "nostrums and dangerous." Read the rule governing the admission of exhibits to the Fair, known as Rule 15:

"Articles that are in any way dangerous or offensive, also patent medicines, nostrums, and empirical preparations, whose ingredients are concealed, will not be admitted to the exposition."

You can understand in the light of this fact, the value of Ayer's medals. They mean character. Other sarsaparillas came to the World's Fair gates with a rainbow bubble of reputation. But the judges said: "It's not what you look like or what you call yourself. It's **what you are.** What are you?" And as they could not say what they were the gates of the Fair were shut against them. It was only Ayer's Sarsaparilla that could say: "I am called sarsaparilla and I am sarsaparilla. Prove me, and see."

The family can't afford to admit what the Fair excluded. It can't afford to confuse character with reputation, the bubble with the medal.

The man with an alias is dangerous, even if the alias is one of the names given him in baptism. The man whose name is John Jones, and who comes into the family as Mr. John, is dangerous. He's not to be trusted. It's the same with the medicine. If it borrows the name sarsaparilla, because it has a little sarsaparilla flavor or a sarsaparilla smell, it's dangerous. It's a fraud.

The man with the mask may be all right, but you don't want him around the house.

Masked Medicines,

like masked men, are unknown quantities. The masked man may be a philanthropist, wanting to do his good deeds in secret, and so choosing night and wearing a mask that he may hide his benevolence. He *may* be—but the chances are he's a burglar. The Veiled Prophet of Khorassan is the type of all these motley maskers. He veiled his face on the claim that his beauty was too rare for the common eye to gaze on. But underneath the veil was the face of a demon. Every sarsaparilla that promises healing, but wears a veil over its formula is of the veiled prophet class. It's easy to be a prophet. You have only to promise. Ayer's Sarsaparilla deals with history. It points back to its **fifty years of cures,** a record which cannot be imitated, as the remedy is, by

Imitation Sarsaparilla.

Ayer's Sarsaparilla is the favorite of the family, because it has a record which stands for character; because you know what you are getting when you get it. Remember: "You don't know what you're getting unless you get Ayer's Sarsaparilla.

"AYER'S CUREBOOK,

A story of cures told by the cured, will effectually answer any questions as to what Ayer's Sarsaparilla does. A book of 100 pages, 16 half-tone portraits, royal Holland covers. Free. J. C. Ayer Co., Lowell, Mass.

The safe rule in buying sarsaparilla: Ask for the best and you 'll get Ayer's. Ask for Ayer's and you 'll get the best.

If you want a sure relief for pains in the back, side, chest, or limbs, use an

Allcock's Porous Plaster

BEAR IN MIND—Not one of the host of counterfeits and imitations is as good as the genuine.

ONLY PLACE ON EARTH TO GET AN $85.00 WHEEL FOR $47.50.

Toledo Blade Bicycle

GENTLEMEN'S WHEEL. LADY'S WHEEL.

EVERY PART MADE UPON HONOR.

This Bicycle Shipped to Any Part of the United States by Freight, and The Weekly Blade One Year to Any Address, Ordered For

ONLY $47.50.

Toledo, Ohio, is celebrated for many things, among which are the most popular and widely circulated weekly newspaper published in the United States, it contains the largest number of bicycle factories in the world, and more bicycles are built in it than in any other city on earth. Coupling these two facts together, it is proper for the Toledo Blade to combine an excellent bicycle with its subscription offers, after the popular plan under which we have sold so many thousand sewing machines during the past ten years.

We have, therefore, contracted with one of the best bicycle manufacturers to supply us with a STRICTLY FIRST-CLASS machine, built on honor, adapted for all uses and for all roads, that we can offer to our readers FOR CASH, at a price considerably less than even cheap machines are sold. The wheel we offer is built to retail for $85, and we guarantee it to be fully equal to any wheel which retails for even $100. The cheapest bicycle now sold in the United States, and built to sell in competition with good wheels, retails for $50 to $65, but you must remember that such wheels are not worth any more than this price. They are not durable, nor adapted for ordinary country roads.

We want it distinctly understood that the wheel we now offer is actually worth from $85 to $100, and can not be bought any place else in the world, except of the Toledo Blade, for less than $85.

We propose now to offer, by way of experiment, JUST ONE HUNDRED of these wheels, including a copy of the Weekly Blade one year, for

$47.50 Each.

The wheels will be shipped by freight to the address given, the purchaser paying freight on receipt of wheel. This will be but a small sum, as the crated wheel is light.

Above we give small cuts of the wheel, both ladies' and gentlemen's pattern, which give a fair idea of its appearance. The following is a detailed description of the works and parts:

The cuts above show that the gentleman's wheel is diamond frame, the ladies', drop frame. The frames are of large-sized cold-drawn seamless steel tubing, properly reinforced. The head is 9 inches in length, of 1⅛-inch tubing; rest of frame, 1⅛ inches; front forks with extra reinforcing, the crown of a new and improved pattern; the rear forks and braces are of ⅝-inch tubing. The entire frame is not only light and strong, but very durable.

The handle bars are of seamless steel tubing, highest grade. The handles are of medium drop, with corkaline grips, German silver tipped; or you can have ram's horn (patterned) handles, same finish, if you prefer them.

The most important portion of a bicycle as regards durability is the wheels. These rims are made of the finest rock elm to be obtained, with the "Plymouth" lock joint; tangent spokes, of the very best drawn steel, cold swaged; wheels 28 inches high, with 68 gear, but you can have a higher or lower gear if you so desire.

We furnish either the "Vim" single tube tire, or the Morgan & Wright "quick repair" double tubes.

The bearings are the best and latest pattern, absolutely dust proof, perfectly true, polished perfectly. The steel balls are of the usual sizes—⅜ inch and ¼ inches diameter, with 153 to each bicycle.

The cranks are equal to the best, made of hardened spring steel of the best quality. They can not get loose, for they are keyed to the axle and threaded for the pedals.

The sprockets are made from the best steel, light yet strong enough for any requirements, plated on heavily coppered base. The hubs are the latest barrel pattern, and like the other parts are made of the best steel obtainable. We furnish an 1894 Humber chain—none better—the rivets hardened, the center solid. Pedals, combination of rubber and rat-trap, dust proof, "Brother" pattern.

The bicycle is of 1895 pattern, in every respect up to the times. It weighs 23 pounds; tread, 56½ inches; wheel base, 42½ inches.

The tool bag contains repair outfit, wrenches, oiler and pump, all complete.

We supply but this one grade of wheel, it being the very best we can get. But we will supply

Both Gents' and Ladies' Wheels

The price being exactly the same for either.

How to Order:

Inclose to us a postoffice money order, or draft on New York or Chicago, or express money order, for $47.50. Give the name and postoffice address of the party to whom we shall send the Weekly Blade one year, and also the name and postoffice address of the person to whom the wheel is to go, and be VERY CAREFUL to also give the name of the railroad station to which the wheel is to be sent.

State particularly whether you want a gent's or lady's wheel. It is unnecessary to give specifications regarding sizes, as they are built of regulation standard size, suitable for any person.

These wheels are now all ready for prompt shipment, and if the order is sent to us, detailed as above, the wheel will be shipped within three days from the time we get the order.

Every person who wants a Blade Wheel should get in quickly on this first 100 lot. After the first 100 are exhausted, we shall no doubt make arrangements for a lot of 1,000 to immediately follow, but we guarantee prompt shipment to all orders from the first 100. Address,

THE BLADE,
Toledo, Ohio.

ABOUT MATABELELAND.

The English Have Rare Sport Hunting Big Game There.

Frederick Selous is the most famous hunter in the world. He has shot every sort of South African bird or beast that is strange or fierce or difficult. He has kept hundreds of trophies of his expeditions, yet every one represents some extraordinary adventure, usually perilous.

He was one of the pioneers in South African exploration. He went there in 1871, when he was only nineteen years old, a boy just out of Rugby. Lo Bengula was then King of the ferocious Matabeles, and had the large but peaceful Mashonas under tribute. Selous asked Lo Bengula to let him hunt elephants, hippopotamuses, giraffes and the like. Lo Bengula looked at the slender boy, laughed and wished him luck.

FREDERICK SELOUS.

For twenty-five years Selous has been in South Africa hunting, exploring, farming, fighting the natives, writing books about his adventures that are as notable for modesty as for absorbing interest.

Two years ago he married an English clergyman's daughter, took her to Africa and settled on a farm in Matabeleland. It was then thought that the Matabeles were broken forever and that the country was to be the peaceful home of British farmers and traders. But it seemed that the famous cunning of the Matabeles did not depart with the departure of their power. That power was very great a few years ago.

When the English first cast longing eyes upon Matabeleland the Matabeles were ruled by Lo Bengula, a crafty savage of revolting ugliness. It would be impossible to exaggerate his cruelty or his treachery. He had his sister smothered because she annoyed him by quarreling with his favorite wife. He was always torturing and butchering somebody on some pretext or another. The Mashonas paid tribute to him gladly. But whenever provisions ran low among the Matabeles Lo Bengula would order a raid on the Mashona village. The men and old women and girls would be driven away as slaves or cucumbers. The children would be spared to grow up good Matabeles. Lo Bengula loved children.

When the English began to settle in Mashonaland they took the Mashonas under their protection. They tried to induce Lo Bengula to cease raiding and slaughtering. He was always conciliatory, protesting his personal innocence, promising to keep his subjects in order. When he had gathered about 15,000 warriors he became defiant.

The English organized a force in the summer of 1893 and, after a few reverses routed the Matabeles and sent the King and his followers skurrying away into the wilderness to the northwest.

Selous and Jameson and several of the adventurers who were in the recent raid on the Transvaal were conspicuous in that campaign. The English slaughtered without mercy, just as Lo Bengula did. This caused some criticism at home, but that was soon quieted when the benefits of the campaign appeared. A vast tract of fertile land was brought under English rule, and is rapidly settling with farmers and sober, industrious colonists of many nationalities.

It seems to be pretty certain that Lo Bengula died of his wounds or was assassinated by his disaffected followers. He was old, enormously fat and much the worse for the champagne of which he was overfond. But the story of his death was never fully confirmed. This makes it possible either that he is alive or that a mere rumor that he is alive is afloat.

OLD FAVORITES.

Published by request.

THE FIRST SNOWFALL.

The snow had begun in the gloaming,
And busily all the night
Had been heaping field and highway
With a silence deep and white.

Every pine and fir and hemlock
Wore ermine too dear for an earl;
And the poorest twig on the elm tree
Was ridged inch deep with pearl.

From sheds new roofed with Carrara
Came chanticleer's muffled crow;
The stiff rails were softened to swan's down,
And still fluttered down the snow.

I stood and watched by the window
The noiseless work of the sky,
And the sudden flurries of snow birds
Like brown leaves whirling by.

I thought of a mound in sweet Auburn
Where a little head lay at rest,
How the flakes were folding it gently
As did robins the babes in the woods.

Up spoke our own little Mabel,
Saying, "Father, who makes it snow?"
And I told her the good All-father,
Who cares for us here below.

Again I looked at the snow fall,
And thought of the leaden sky
That arched o'er our first great sorrow,
When that mound was heaped so high.

I remembered the gradual patience
That fell from that cloud like snow,
Flake by flake, healing and hiding
The scar of our deep plunged woe.

And again to the child I whispered,
"The snow that husheth all,—
Darling, the merciful Father
Alone can make it fall."

Then with eyes that saw not, I kissed her;
And she, kissing back, could not know
That my kiss was given to her sister,
Folded close under deepening snow.

—James Russell Lowell.

Thousands of Hens on One Ranch.

Some hopeful speculators who have been counting unhatched chickens are about to start a poultry ranch near San Francisco which is to be largest in the world. It is to reach its full capacity in three years, when it is to put on the market annually 2,000,000 eggs and 50,000 chickens for broiling. The plant will include two incubators, with a capacity of 2,000 eggs each, and no end of houses and pens, which will be contained in a 40-acre ranch. There will be 500 hens laying for the incubators and 10,000 laying for the market.

ON A CATHODOGRAPH OF A LADY.

She is so tall, so slender; and her bones,
Those frail phosphates, those carbonates of lime,
Are well produced by cathode rays sublime,
By oscillations, aspyxs, and by ohms.
Her dorsal vertebrae are not concealed
By epidermis, but are well revealed
Around her ribs, those beauteous twenty-four,
Her flesh a halo makes, misty in lime.
Her noseless, eyeless face looks into mine,
And I but whisper, "Sweetheart, Je t'adore."
Her white and gleaming teeth at me do laugh.
Ah! lovely, cruel, sweet cathodegraph!

CUT PAPER PATTERNS

Splendid Offer to Lady Readers of The Blade.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

to All Who Order Patterns, or Have Ordered Them.

When sending complaints regarding non-receipt of patterns, be sure to give
The date of your order,
The number of the pattern,
The measurements.

Owing to the carelessness of our subscribers, we now have on hand several unfilled pattern orders. We are unable to fill these orders for the following reasons: No postoffice address; number of pattern not given; no measurements given. We have mailed a card to as many as possible, asking for the desired information. These errors in sending orders causes a great deal of delay and extra work.

We now ask every one who has sent us an order for a pattern which they have not yet received (allowing, of course, a reasonable length of time to have passed) to send us at once a duplicate order, giving date of first order, number of pattern and measurement.

NO. 6708—MISS'S SHIRT WAIST.

Striped linen batiste made this stylish shirt waist, the neck being finished by a fitted band to which separate collars can be buttoned, the pattern providing for two different styles. The full fronts are gathered at the neck, a wide box plait being formed on the edge of right front, through which buttonholes are worked to use in closing with studs or buttons. The full back is gathered at the top and joined to a seamless yoke lining having a straight lower edge, the double pointed yoke [illegible] and over and stitched down firmly on its lower edges. The fullness at the waist line is regulated by draw tapes, inserted in casing at the back and tied around in front, the lower edges of basque length being worn under the skirt. The high standing collar or turn-over collar that is mounted on a deep band can be permanently attached if so preferred. Full gathered Pamin shirt sleeves are finished with straight cuffs at the wrists, slashed openings being finished with under and over laps in back. Madras, cheviot and Oxford shirtings, lawn, dimity, percale, cambric or gingham in stripes, checks, figured and plain varieties will develop stylishly by the mode.

No. 6708—MISS'S SHIRT WAIST.

The quantity of material 36 inches wide required to make this shirt waist for a miss fourteen years of age is 3¾ yards.

The pattern, which is No. 6708 and retails for twenty-five cents, is cut in sizes for misses of ten, twelve, fourteen and sixteen years of age.

NO. 6711—BOY'S FAUNTLEROY BLOUSE.

This dressy blouse is made of fine white fawn, trimmed with frills of the material and embroidered with insertion. A box plait is formed on the left front edge, through which the closing is made with studs or buttons. The shaping is by shoulder and underarm seams, the lower edge being finished with a hem, through which elastic is run to adjust the fullness to the figure, in regular blouse style. A broad sailor collar that flares widely apart in front finishes the neck. The full sleeves are shaped by single seams, gathered top and bottom into wristbands, over which deep cuffs roll back that are trimmed with frills and insertion on the edge to match collar and front box plait. Daintiness can be added by making the frills from embroidery or edging them with narrow lace. Dimity, nainsook, batiste or cambric is generally chosen for best, gingham, percale, cross linen or colored cambric being selected for ordinary wear.

No. 6711—BOY'S FAUNTLEROY BLOUSE.

The quantity of material 36 inches wide required to make this blouse for a boy six years of age is 2¼ yards.

The pattern, which is No. 6711 and retails for twenty-five cents, is cut in sizes for boys of two, four, six and eight years of age.

NO. 6734—LADY'S NORFOLK WAIST, WITH RIPPLE BASQUE.

Mordore brown and fawn-mixed tweed suiting that showed a yellow vein in its weave is chosen for this becoming waist that matches the skirt. The waist in Norfolk style has graduated box plaits applied on front and back, the fashionable ripple basque joined at the waist line being stiffened with an interlining and faced with buttercup taffeta. Small gilt buttons in groups of three decorate the center plait in front, the points of collar, belt and cuff bands, which are also faced with satin. Single bust darts, under-arm and side-back gores that reach to the shoulders, with a curved center seam, perform the glove-fitting adjustment. The box plaits are made separately, and can be applied with invisible stitches or machine stitching near each edge, if so preferred. The neck is finished with a close-fitting standing collar, the right end of which is pointed, and laps over the left. The drooping sleeves are shaped with single seams, in lego'-mutton style, and are of fashionable, but not exaggerated fullness. They are gathered at the top over comfortable two-seamed linings, and finished with pointed bands to match the collar. A belt of the material pointed at the overlapping end encircles the waist, which can be omitted in favor of a narrow gilt belt with buckle, now the vogue to wear with these waists.

No. 6734—LADY'S NORFOLK WAIST WITH RIPPLE BASQUE.

The quantity of material 44 inches wide required to make this waist for a lady having a 36-inch bust measure is 4 yards.

The pattern, which is No. 6734 and retails for twenty-five cents, is cut in sizes for a 32, 34, 36, 38, 40 and 42-inch bust measure.

NO. 6728—LADY'S SKIRT.

This stylish skirt displays to advantage the combination of black and white plaid with black satin. The pointed straps used in decoration are held at each end with cut-steel buttons. The front gore takes the form of a broad box plait and meets the under folded edges of the side gores at the top, flaring apart gradually to disclose the plaited panel. The panel is laid in two side plaits, turning toward the center, its edges joining the front and side gores, which overlap and form plaits at each side. Straps tacked underneath hold the plaits in position. The wide side gores fit smoothly at the top and ripple stylishly below the hips. The back gores are laid in box plaits on each side of the center seam, a placket being finished at the top, and the skirt is completed with a belt. The skirt is of ample width, yet not extravagant, measuring less than five yards when the plaits are held in. Handsome combinations of material and coloring will be suggested by the mode. Silk and velvet, plain and brocaded silks and satin, crepons and all-wool fabrics, with velvet, satin or silk, all develop stylishly. In remodeling skirts, the introduction of these side panels will give stylish width and proper flare at the foot.

No. 6728—LADY'S SKIRT.

The quantity of material 36 inches wide required to make this skirt for a lady having a 26-inch waist measure is 6 yards.

The pattern, which is No. 6728 and retails for thirty cents, is cut in sizes for a 22, 24, 26, 28 and 30-inch waist measure.

NO. 6690—LADY'S SHIRT WAIST.

Another style of the popular shirt waist is here given, made of fancy striped batiste, and worn with a satin stock necktie. Turnover and standing collars are provided in the pattern, either style of which can be joined permanently, or both made separately and buttoned on to the shaped band that finishes the neck. The shirt waist closes in front with studs or buttons through a box plait formed on the right front edge, gathers at the neck causing pretty fullness over the bust. The full back is gathered at the top and joined to the yoke lining that has a straight lower edge, the double-pointed yoke being laid over, stitched on its lower edges, thus insuring a neat and durable finish. Gathers or a casing and draw string can be used to adjust the fullness at the waist line. Bishop shirt sleeves are gathered top and bottom into straight cuffs that close with cuff buttons or links, pointed laps finishing the openings at the back of sleeves. The lower edge of waist is worn under the skirt, and a belt of the material or of ribbon is worn to the waist. Lawn, percale, satee[illegible] a fancy belt of leather, gilt or ribbon [illegible]es the waist. Lawn, percale, satee[illegible]ric, dimity, Oxford or Madras shirti[illegible] checks, stripes, Persian or fancy designs [illegible] make up stylishly by the mode.

No. 6690—LADY'S SHIRT WAIST.

The quantity of material 36 inches wide required to make this shirt waist for a lady having a 36-inch bust measure is 4¼ yards.

The pattern, which is No. 6690 and retails for twenty-five cents, is cut in sizes for a 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42 and 44-inch bust measure.

NO. 6730—LADY'S TUCKED YOKE WAIST.

Sheer linen batiste is here shown plainly but stylishly arranged over apple green taffeta lining, the collar, belt and round cuffs being of green satin. A glove-fitting waist lining of taffeta that closes in center front forms the foundation for the full front and back that is gathered and joined to the square, tucked, yoke portions, closing at the left shoulder. The full sleeves are shaped in three sections and arranged over two-seamed linings in tucks and plaits that turn backward and forward from the box plait at the shoulder and back of arm to the wrist. Round, flaring cuffs of satin complete the sleeves, the standing collar and belt being of the same material. This stylish waist is adapted to silk or cotton fabrics, affording ample opportunity for displaying handsome decorations of Dresden, Persian or plain satin ribbon, now so fashionable. It can also be developed in cloth or other woolens, made all of one material and finished with machine stitching in all the severity of the tailor modes.

No. 6730—LADY'S TUCKED YOKE WAIST

The quantity of material 36 inches wide required to make this waist for a lady having a 36-in bust measure is 4¾ yards.

The pattern, which is No. 6730 and retails for 25 cents is cut in sizes for a 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40-inch bust measure.

READ THE OFFER:

The above pattern or patterns will be mailed to any address for only 10 cents each. We will fill orders from any person, whether a regular or occasional reader of The Blade. In ordering, address "Pattern Department, Blade, Toledo, Ohio," enclose ten cents silver for each pattern wanted, (do not send stamps if you can obtain other funds). State both title and number of pattern. No coupon required.

Full description and directions—as the number of yards and material required, the number and names of the different pieces in the pattern, how to cut and fit and put the garment together—are sent with each pattern, with a picture of the garment to go by. These patterns are complete in every particular, there being a seaprate pattern for every single piece of the dress.

For ladies, give BUST measure in inches. For SKIRT pattern, give WAIST measure in inches. For misses, boys, girls or children, give BREAST measure in inches. Order patterns by number and give size in inches.

To get BUST or BREAST measure, put the tape measure all of the way around the body, over the dress, close under the arms.

ESTELLE'S ASTRONOMY.

Our little Estelle
Was preplexed when she found
That this wonderful world
That we live on is round.

How 'tis held in its place
In its orbit so true
Was a puzzle to her,
With no answer in view.

"It must be," said Estelle,
"Like a ball in the air
That is hung by a string;—
But the string isn't there!"

—St. Nicholas.

Fin De Siece Beauty.

Customer—Why do you particularly recommend this style of enamel?

Dealer—It is impenetrable by the cathode rays, madame!—Town Topics.

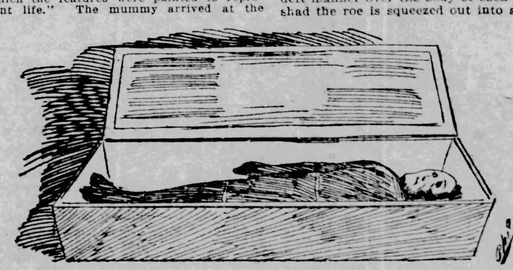
THE OLDEST MUMMY.

Over 6,000 Years Old and Wrapped in the Finest Linen.

Under Professor Stewart's care in the Museum at the Royal College of Surgeons is the oldest mummy in the world, which is shown in the accompanying illustration. According to Professor Flinders Petrie this mummy belonged to the Fourth Egyptian Dynasty, and is upwards of 6,000 years of age.

It is supposed this individual was a high functionary in the ancient Egyptian Court, and his body was preserved by methods not then generally used, says the Strand Magazine. Professor Petrie himself took the mummy from a tomb at Medum, in Egypt.

"After some preliminary steps," declared Professor Stewart, in describing the preparation of the mummy, "this body was probably imbued with spices, and then covered with a layer of resin, most likely derived from the Cedars of Lebanon, after which the features were painted to represent life." The mummy arrived at the museum in 1892, and Professors Flinders Petrie and Stewart commenced their examination of it a month or two after its reception.



OLDEST MUMMY IN THE WORLD.

"We took it out into the courtyard," remarked Professor Stewart, "and there commenced to unwrap it. The mummy was extremely dry and fragile, and from it arose a fine pungent dust that was extremely irritating. I found that the brain remained, while the body itself was stuffed with handfuls of ancient cloth. It was wrapped in a gauze-like texture, which I first took to be papyrus; and it was quite by accident that I looked at a piece of this texture under the microscope, when I found it to be linen. I at once suspended operations on the mummy and I made my way to Bond street, where I entered a linen warehouse and asked for some of the finest linen that it was possible to buy.

"The assistant brought me a piece, assuring me, in a confidential whisper, that its like was rarely sold, and then when a buyer did come along, he or she was among the highest and wealthiest in the land. I hurried back with this linen and compared it under the microscope with the ancient Egyptian texture, woven more than 6,000 years ago.

"Of the two linens, the finer was the ancient Egyptian fabric and the coarser the very best linen that Belfast or Bond street an produce."

Caution Necessary.

"Will you introduce me to your friend yonder?"

"Yes, provided you will not grow confidential with him about me."—Chicago Record.

NO EGG CROP LIKE THIS ONE.

Uncle Sam Gathers It, and the Result is a Wonderful Catch of Fish.

Uncle Sam is the greatest gatherer and hatcher of eggs in the world. The eggs in which he deals are mostly shad eggs, and his busy season is about to begin. During the annual run of shad the work of selecting the eggs of these fish is conducted with great activity at the important stations of the United States fish commission on the Delaware, Potomac and Susquehanna rivers, says the New York Journal. As fast as they are secured they are put into the glass hatching jars, from which the young and vigorous shadlings presently emerge.

The government experts go out with the fishermen in their boats. They watch the drawing of the nets, selecting from the catch as many robust and well-grown mother fishes as can be handled to advantage. By passing the hand in a deft manner over the body of each female shad the roe is squeezed out into a glass jar, wherein it is immediately fertilized by "milt" that is got from the male in the same fashion. This is accomplished very rapidly, an average female yielding about 25,000 eggs.

HOW UNCLE SAM MANUFACTURES HIS FISH.

Many of the shad fishermen have learned how to take the eggs and fertilize them in this way. They sell the eggs ready fertilized to the agents of the fish commission, receiving for them $20 a million. The eggs are reckoned by measurement. More than one-half of all the shad eggs utilized for hatching are purchased in this manner. On being delivered they are placed in a glass receptacle, through which a stream of water runs, so that all bad eggs and refuse are floated off. The residue is paid for in cash.

The process of hatching the eggs is extremely simple. They are put into glass jars, through which a stream of water continually runs, and thus are kept agitated all the time, so that they enjoy an everflowing bath of fresh water and escape contact with all foulness that might injure them. They are somewhat bigger than buckshot, white, and quite translucent. They are hatched out in from four to ten days. As fast as they emerge they find their way out of the jar with the running water and into a large tank, from which they may be scooped with gauze nets whenever they are wanted.

This work was first begun on a large scale in 1881. At that time the annual catch of shad in the rivers of the United States was only 18,000,000 pounds, and fears were entertained lest the fishery was destined to be destroyed by overfishing. No results could be expected until 1885, when the artificially hatched fishes attained maturity and returned to the streams to spawn. By the simple method described wonders have already been achieved, and this season the catch will be over 40,000,000 pounds. Indeed, the shad fishery in future need have no limit, save such as is set intentionally by man.

In order literally to crowd the streams with shad every year, it is merely necessary to hatch a sufficient number of eggs and put the young fry into the water. The shad live in the sea, only ascending the rivers annually for breeding purposes. The sea will support any number of them. They feed on the ocean bottoms, where they find unlimited provender. At spawning time they fetch the crops of these bottoms, otherwise inaccessible to man, into the streams and deliver them up in the shape of toothsome meat and roe.

SIDE COMBS

These side combs are every two inches wide, by one inch wide, triple plated, now very fashionable. Sent by mail, **Pair by mail, TWO CENTS.** ADDRESS LYNN & CO., 28 BOND ST., NEW YORK.

A PARLOR TRAGEDY.

A Dresden china maiden
Upon a bracket sat,
There were pretty ribbons paint
Around her little hat.
Her mouth was red and smiling,
Her eyes were round and blue,
She wore a flowered petticoat
And high-heeled slippers, too.

Now, just across the parlor
Upon the mantel-shelf,
A plaster fisher laddie
Stood all day by himself.
Beneath his feet torn hat-brim
His face was bright and young,
And across his sturdy shoulder
His fishing net was hung.

Just why the Fates uncertain
Should thus have placed these two
Is a riddle, whose solution
I think I'll leave to you.
For the little plaster fisher
Upon his shelf displayed,
Saw his neighbor on her bracket
And loved the china maid.

And when the room was quiet,
That mortals might not learn,
He spoke of his affection
And begged a like return.
But his little Dresden sweetheart
Was a very sad coquette,
And she scorned a plaster lover
Who bore a fisher's net!

Ah, then his hopes were blighted
And he cared to live no more!
So next day, when the servant
The mantel dusted o'er,
Close to the edge he lingered,
And as she swept the shelf
She struck him—yeah, he tumbled
And thus he killed himself.

When the Dresden china maiden
Beheld the suicide,
Her blue eyes stared in terror,
And in anguish loud she cried,
But the servant did not hear her,
For with broom and rattling pan
She was sweeping up the pieces
Of the luckless fisherman.

Unhappy little maiden!
She mourned the fisher's fate,
And realized that she loved him
When it was all too late!
She lost her pretty color
Like other stricken maids,
Till the family said in wonder,
"Why, how that image fades!"

One day into the parlor
There strayed a little boy.
He climbed up to her bracket
And she hailed his touch with joy.
She knew that he would take her,
Since his mother that forbade,
And she hoped that he would drop her—
And sure enough—he did!

They picked the broken fragments
Up from the parlor floor,
And threw them on the ash heap
Outside the kitchen door.
And the bits of Dresden china
And the scraps of plaster crust
In that final place of resting
Commingled with the dust.

—Gertrude T. Clark.

CONCERNING WOMEN.

Notes of Interest Gathered Here and There.

Mme. Jean Schmahl, editor of the Avant-Courrier, has just succeeded in carrying through the French Chamber of Deputies a bill giving married women the control of their own earnings. Hitherto, whether a married woman earned a dollar by writing a novel or a thousand dollars by writing a successful book, the money belonged exclusively to her husband. This led to great hardship, especially among poor working women with drunken husbands. It has cost Mme. Schmahl years of patience, tactful and persistent effort to get the law amended, but the measure finally passed by an unanimous vote.

Palmyra, Me., has a woman's club with which even the most old-fashioned carping critic would find no possible fault. It is called the "Merry-go-Rounds," and the good women meet each Wednesday afternoon at the home of the different members in turn, and spend the hours helping the hostess patch the boys' trousers, mend wretched stockings, and take other needed stitches in the needs of the household require, finishing up, after a picnic supper, with a social and literary entertainment, to which the husbands are invited.

Miss Kate Shelly of Moingona, Iowa, who made her way through a raging blizzard at midnight several years ago, and, by signaling to a crowded express train on the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad, saved it from plunging through a wrecked bridge, has applied to the Iowa Legislature for employment in the State Home as a menial. She is destitute, and has to support her aged mother and an invalid brother.

Kaffir Corn.

We still are prepared to furnish Kaffir Corn. See back numbers for full description of this dry climate forage plant.

For $1.35 we send 3 1-2 pounds Kaffir Corn (enough to seed one acre,) and the Weekly Blade one year.

For $1.10 we will send 2 pounds Kaffir Corn and the Weekly Blade one year.

WITHOUT The Blade we will send 3 1-2 pounds Kaffir Corn for $1, 2 pounds for 75 cents.

Address "The Blade, Toledo, Ohio."

HOMESTEADERS WANTED—A snap for the right men. Write for particulars, enclosing stamp, to Lock Box 303, West Branch, Mich.

AGENTS WANTED—James G. Blaine on the Money Question, and other pay fine articles, bound in paper. Sells at sight. 200 to 300 per cent profit. Address, Globe Bible Co., 723 Life Bldg, Minneapolis.

CRIPPLE CREEK Mining Stock. Send $50 for 500 shares. Profit 500 per cent a year. Send money order or draft to Cripple Creek Gold Syndicate, P. O. Box, 1494, Cripple Creek, Colorado.

FREE TO WEAK MEN.

I will send you a convincing sample of my wonderful specific free of charge. Are you a weak man, young or old? Do you suffer from Losses, Drains, Impotency, Nervousness, Shrunken Organs, etc. Then consult me before applying elsewhere. My little book entitled Perfect Manhood" mailed free. Address, Prof. F. A. Seeley, 726, Seventh Ave., New York City.

Blade Tea Sets.

We are still furnishing the Blade China Tea Sets and Dinner Sets, with the paper, at these prices:

No. 1.—BLADE STANDARD TEA SET, 80 pieces, and the Weekly Blade one year, $5.40; or, free to any one who sends us a club of eight subscribers and $8.

No. 2.—BLADE TEA SET, 50 pieces, and the Weekly Blade one year, $4; or, free to any one sending us a club of six subscribers and $6.

No. 3.—BLADE DINNER SET, 109 pieces, and the Weekly Blade one year, $9.25; or, free to any one sending a club of 16 subscribers and $16.

No. 4.—BLADE CHINA SORTS, 28 pieces, and the Weekly Blade one year, $3; or, free for a club of 5 subscribers and $5.

ORDER BY NUMBER.—For a full description of these dishes, see previous numbers of The Blade, or drop us a postal card. Address The Blade, Toledo, O.

THE NEW BLADE Sewing Machine.

Our offer of the new Blade Sewing Machine, in connection with the paper, still holds good. We omit the large advertisement for lack of space.

THE BLADE SEWING MACHINE, and the Weekly Blade one year, for only EIGHTEEN DOLLARS!

OR,

We will send a Blade Sewing Machine FREE to any person who sends us Thirty Dollars for 30 yearly subscribers to the Weekly Blade.

Refer to the advertisement in back numbers, or drop us a postal card asking for information. Address

THE BLADE, Toledo, Ohio.

EVER A SONG SOMEWHERE.

There is ever a song somewhere, my dear,
There is ever a something sings alway:
There's the song of the lark when the skies are clear,
And the song of the thrush when the skies are gray.
The sunshine showers across the grain,
And the bluebird trills in the orchard tree,
And in and out, when the eaves drip rain,
The swallows are twittering ceaselessly.

There is ever a song somewhere, my dear,
Be the skies above or dark or fair;
There is ever a song that our hearts may hear—
There is ever a song somewhere, my dear,
There is ever a song somewhere!

There is ever a song somewhere, my dear,
In the midnight black or the midday blue;
The robin pipes when the sun is here,
And the cricket chirrups the whole night through.
The buds may bloom and the fruit may grow,
And the Autumn leaves drop crisp and sere;
But whether the sun, or the rain, or the snow,
There is ever a song somewhere, my dear.

There is ever a song somewhere, my dear,
Be the skies above or dark or fair;
There is ever a song that our hearts may hear—
There is ever a song somewhere, my dear—
There is ever a song somewhere!

—James Whitcomb Riley.

TRUE LIBERTY.

ONLY HE WHO IS MASTER OF SELF CAN CONTROL OTHERS.

As True of Nations as of Individuals—Ungoverned Passion Always Brings Ruin.

"There is no outer liberty apart from inner liberty; control of affairs is first control of self, and ungoverned passions must forever mean shipwreck of life, destruction and death."

In this expression from the pen of a philosopher is embodied a lesson which the world is ever being taught, which it is ever forgetting, but which must be learned and acted upon ere mankind, as a whole, can reach any higher plane of real attainment than it occupies to-day. There is no outer liberty apart from inner liberty—that is, the nation which is dominated within itself by unworthy ambitions, by disregard for the rights of other nations, contains the seeds of inevitable decay and disintegration, in the not far distant future. The "inner liberty" means the life of the soul as a controling power, the soul which may be scoffed at and disregarded and yet which speaks at odd moments until its voice is lost in the rush and roar of the battle for purely material advantages. And this is as true of the nation as of the individual, for the soul of the nation is formed by the union of the soul of its units, and in proportion as the latter are controlled by the higher self, so will the nation progress to better and purer conditions.

It is because of this interweaving of the lives of the people into a unified whole, that the responsibility of individual action becomes so great. We are, each one of us, in this sense, our brother's keeper, and just so far as we allow ourselves to become the slave to ungoverned passion of any kind just so far are we injuring every other member of that body of which we form a part. There is absolutely no such thing as "separateness," prate as we may about independence. The only independence that we have, and even that is but partial, is that of the bodies which we, our real selves, are using as instruments during our physical lives. Nations whose policy is wholly selfish injure each other as individuals do, and their need for freedom from ungoverned passion lest they shipwreck themselves is just as great. The same law applies to a municipality, or a community.

I was not, however, thinking so much of the "ungoverned passion" of a whole people when I quoted the opening paragraph, as of it as applied to our own personal lives day by day. This necessity of being master of one's self, of controlling the passions of the body is a law as old as humanity, and is always presented as that which is as necessary for material advancement as for spiritual growth. Yet knowing all this we go right on ignoring the inner voice, the voice of the soul which is seeking to dominate the body, and allow the latter to tyrannize over us to our own undoing.

Perhaps no writer has ever taught this so clearly as Shakespeare in his tragedies. With this thought in the mind let the reader follow them through and see how one and all show that an "ungoverned passion" brings final shipwreck to the outer life as well as present moral ruin. In the current number of Poet Lore the lesson is taught in the historical play of King John. Gradually through the ever strengthening lust for sovereignty and power, he left behind him every noble impulse, every heroic quality that belongs to the nature of a man that is not wholly surrendered to the dominance of the lower self, and became the cruel, tyrannical character which the poet represents him as the outcome of this surrender. The gradual development and growth of the worst passions as a result of their indulgence are painted with the touch of a master who understands human nature. Then there are Lear who is the victim of ungoverned rage; Macbeth and Lady Macbeth who let ambition run riot and overmaster their sense of duty, even to the extent of forgetting the sacredness of human life; Othello whose jealousy grew and grew until he was its slave—all of these and more Shakespeare used to emphasize this lesson that once wholly learned, places the prizes of life within easy reach.

To bring this thought into our own daily life. There be many who will say this does not apply to me, for I have no "ungoverned passion" which needs to be overcome. Are you sure? Have you attained that "inner liberty" of the soul which makes it the master over the desires and teadencies of the animal self? Have you sure control of the quick temper which is ready to flame into anger at any encroachment upon what you believe to be your rights? Have you gained that higher patience, that "resignation" of self which prevents the seeking of revenge for real or fancied wrongs? Do you always guard the speech that may injure another through a repetition of what may be unfortunate fact or wholly untruth? Can you hold yourself steady, you who are in the business world, under the temptation to get the advantage of your fellows in order to add to your own material prosperity? Do you hold fast to your duty against fear or the "speech of people? If not, "inner liberty" in its fullness is not yours, but something to be striven for.

Of course, I do not mean that he who has not gained perfect control in all of these things is wholly "ungoverned." We should, most of us, be in a sorry plight if that were true. This "inner liberty" is something of slow growth. Many are the steps of the ladder by which we climb heavenward. As individuals, however, there are few who have not some side upon which their moral defenses are weak. Self-examination will show this to be true, that is, if we look into our every day lives with the purpose of being honest with ourselves. To deceive one's self as to the stage of goodness reached is very easy, especially in those passions whose outward expression seem harmless and sometimes interesting, such as evil speaking of others in what is sometimes termed friendly gossip.

There are those, however, that we know are wrong; that they are never harmless, and yet we go right on reckless of consequences. Nothing, for instance, makes such havoc in the lives of ordinary men and women as the yielding to sudden fits of anger. Indulged in, and they weaken the character; they take away the power of influencing others, for angry words have small weight; they impel to actions which are often sadly regretted. The effect of a passion of anger goes far deeper than is often realized.

Considering all these things carefully, looking upon life as we see and know it, studying results from the standpoint of the poet with his insight into human nature, we can well understand that there is indeed "no outer liberty apart from inner liberty"—the control by the soul of the physical body.

EMILY S. BOUTON.

"Heedless of the encircling spirit-world
Which, tho-unseen, is felt, and sows in us
All germs of pure and world-wide purposes."

—Lowell.

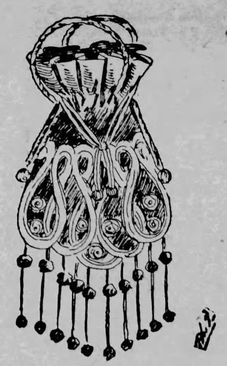
IN LEISURE MOMENTS.

Turn Your Attention to These Dainty Bits of Adornment.

Handsome Hand-Bag.

Take a piece of olive silk 18 inches long and 20 inches wide, line it with pale pink silk, turning it down 3 inches at the top, shirring it for a draw-string of crochet cord. Scallop the lower end of the bag as shown in the illustration.

To make the cord, which is set on in a scroll pattern, take coarse hempen twine, and with a double thread of olive knitting silk make a row of single crochet around it; over this crochet a row of slip stitches with a double thread of Japanese gold. For the rings which fill the spaces take either metal rings or cardboard forms and work around them, first with old-gold silk, then with gold thread. For the fringe, crochet with double gold thread 11 cords in chain stitch, each 12 inches long, connecting the ends of each 3 times at regular intervals, and attach olive silk drops to and between the knots



as illustrated. For a drop make 4 chains, close with a slip stitch, work 4 chains, 5 roll crochets of 10 coils each around the loop. (For a roll crochet, wind the thread loosely 10 times around the needle, take a loop around the chain ring, and pull a loop through all the loops and coils on the needle, drawing the loop close to bring the upper end of the coil down to the ring, then work a single around the ring). For the handles make a row of roll crochet a yard and a half long. Begin with 3 chains, a roll crochet of 6 coils on the first of the 3 chains, then by turns a roll crochet and 2 chains.—Dele.

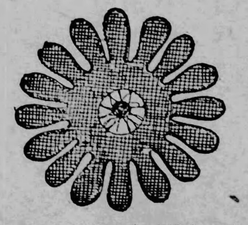
Head Rest.

Make a soft roll of feathers or down, to fit the chair on which the rest is intended to hang. Cover it with a piece of blue silk or satin, decorated with a spray of wild roses in their natural colors. Sew

a frill of lace at each end of this silk cover, slip it over the roll and draw down closely at each end under bows and ends of pale blue ribbon. A twisted silken cord is added to suspend the cushion from the chair.—Three-Ply.

Tumbler Doiley.

Cut the daisy from white or ecru linen using a saucer for a guide in marking the circle. Fold this round piece over and over until you have the smallest possible triangle, and cut the folded piece in the shape of a daisy petal, using sharp, heavy scissors.



Cut off one inch at the folded end in a curve to form the open circle in the center. With linen thread button-hole the edge of the petals and the inside of the circle; this must be done with care, as the cut edges are apt to fray.

Make the center in this way: Chain 7 stitches; in the first ch. work 7 rose stitches, putting the thread over 20 times and join.

To make a rose stitch, catch in the first chain * ch. 3, then the thread over 20 times, put the hook through the work, thread over, draw through the work, thread over, draw through the coil, thread over, and draw through the loop on the needle. Draw the thread so tightly that it will bend the coil nearly half-way to the work. Repeat from * Second round, Ch. 3 and work 2 rose stitches, thread over 20 times between each one of the first round, join. Fasten in the open space with a point lace stitch.—Annie Laurie.

THE COOK'S DEPARTMENT.

Good Friday comes this month, the old woman runs
With one or two a penny hot cross buns,
Whose virtue is, if you'll believe what's said,
They'll not grow mouldy like the common bread.

In times of feasting or fasting, the Cook of the family takes an active and important part. During the Lenten season she must prepare something good and comforting to the stomach out of the things allowed good churchmen and women, to eat, and when the glad Easter comes we all celebrate it with an unusually good dinner. Even Good Friday has, in some countries, its especial cookery and we give to-day a recipe for the famous

Hot Cross Buns.

Into a large bowl sift 1 qt. of flour; ½ cupful of sugar; ½ teasponful of salt. Dissolve ¼ cupful of butter in 1 cupful of warm milk, and add to the flour and the beaten yolks of 2 eggs, ½ yeast cake dissolved in a little warm water, ½ of a grated nutmeg, and last the whites of the eggs beaten stiff. Mix this into a smooth, soft dough; cover it with a cloth, and place it in a warm place over night. In the morning mix out into little round cakes about 1 inch in thickness. Place on buttered tins and let them rise to double their original size. With a sharp knife cut a cross in the center of each bun, bake in a moderate oven, and when done, brush the top with a syrup of sugar and water.

An East Indian Dish.

Chop bits of any cold fish and mix with an equal amount of cold, boiled rice, add 1 cold boiled egg, chopped fine, salt, pepper and a little butter. Mix and heat thoroughly and serve piping hot with buttered toast.

Curried Beef.

Chop or grind remnants of roast beef or steak, and to 1 cupful of the meat add ½ teaspoonful of curry powder, ½ tablespoonful of butter, salt and cayenne pepper. Wet with hot water; let it boil up and serve on toasted crackers.

English Sauce.

One tablespoonful of grated horse radish, 1 tablespoonful of made mustard, 4 tablespoonfuls of vinegar and 1 tablespoonful of powdered sugar. Mix well and let it stand for an hour before using.

'Tis looking downward that makes one dizzy.—Browning.

With the first spring days there comes to many of us a feeling of languor and depression of spirits that prevents us from fully appreciating the pleasant change from winter's storms and dreary days to the sunshine and brightness of spring and we imagine all kinds of doleful and dismal things. In common parlance this is termed "spring fever," and a very practical and sensible cure for it is a thorough treatment with spring tonics, as by healing and resting an over-worked brain or stomach we shall obtain clearer and brighter views of life. To quote Josiah Allen's wife: "Many folks who think they are lovesick only need a good dose of thoroughwort tea."

Three letters from as many different states have been received by the editor since our last meeting in the Cozy Corner, each full of discouragement and longings for "something better;" that they may do more, and know more, of good. And they do not realize that this very expression of doubt of their ability to accomplish their desires is hindering them.

At this Easter season when there is so much of the new life of the world before us, in the grass and budding trees, we should not indulge in these morbid and unhealthy fancies, but look persistently forward to something better, and resolutely determine that we will accomplish all of the good purposes we have in our hearts. So, to these friends who have written these despondent letters, the editor sends as an Easter greeting—first, assure yourself that your misgivings and troubles are not caused by a disordered stomach, or liver, and if they are put yourself in better physical condition, then

"Leave thy cares beneath;
Leave thy worldly love;
Beginning now the better life,
With God above."

One of the correspondents above mentioned had for her especial trouble her inability to understand the "true meaning of life"—how she could know whether she was doing all she could, all she ought to do, to make her life mean all it should to her. I do not know of a fuller, or more comprehensive rule for finding this than the following from Bishop Brooks: "The moment you use all the power with you for serving your fellow men the moment you forget yourself, then you will certainly come to a great and glorious revelation of the true, real meaning of life." And if this friend, or any other, is in doubt as to what there is for her to do, let her take the word of the Lord as given to Paul in answer to his question: 'Arise, and go into the city and it shall be told thee what thou must do." If we "go into the city," that is, hold ourselves in readiness to do whatever there is to do, we shall surely find it.

This week Western Mother has an answer from another Western Mother telling how another family had suffered with the willfulness of a wayward daughter, and how the pastor of the church suggested a remedy for such trouble.

Our good minister called a meeting of the parents in the neighborhood and gave us a plain talk on the subject of child-training.

He said, that, after years of careful study and observation, he had concluded that in 90 per cent. of such cases as above the home government had been too lax—in childhood. He said: "Begin with infancy to impress the idea that parent's word is law, not tyranny, but just government by a loving hand. He said it is possible for parents to so secure the confidence of the children that obedience will be insured, and their wishes respected even after years of majority are attained."

It would seem that these willful girls are not found exclusively in the Western homes, as Mrs. L. writes us from the Pine Tree state, that a similar instance occurred near where she lives and this is her suggestion of a preventive:

I think parents could do more by educating their children against intemperance than by trying to separate two young persons who have become completely enamored with each other. There was a time when the daughter might have seen the folly of marrying one who will only make her life miserable, but love can see nothing but beauty in its object and is blind to all faults. Then, the would-be husband makes such solemn vows to reform that the loving, trusting girl thinks, until too late, that her love can save him. It is an old, old story with but few variations.

Nellie M., try to talk, work and keep your temper at the same time. If you cheerfully throw those circular letters into your waste-basket they can not harm you. Look upon the bright side.

And while we are talking about the dear young girls, whose weal or woe means so much to us, let us listen while Vivian tells Mary Alice the result of her own experience in endeavoring to keep an engagement secret from her mother.

I will say I became engaged secretly to a young man when I was 16. He gave me an elegant diamond ring, yet I dared not wear it.

Was I happy? Yes, I thought I was; yet the worry of the secrecy on my mind gave me nervous prostration. My sickness kept me from my school, from which I was in the hopes of graduating; but it gave me an insight into what mother-love will do for a child, even though a disobedient one.

My lover was to visit relatives in our village during the holidays, and I begged him to make a clean breast of it, asking the consent of my loving parents. This he refused to do. Then I told him we must part. I gave him back everything, and since that time we have been as strangers. Did I suffer? Yes, more than I can tell, but after a while God in His all-wise power, sent peace to my soul.

Your parents have guarded you from your cradle. Watching over you through midnight hours, when you were ill.

Can a stranger think, or love you more than they? Your sorrows and joys are theirs, and no one is more interested in your happiness than they; therefore, my dear girl, I beg you to tell your mother your new secret; and let her share it with you. When I look at my dear , good mother, and think how good she has been to me, I wonder how I ever could have kept one word from her; and if I should have another love, one who would be more mortal, and less of the book sort, one who would, first of all, consider that there was some one on the earth before; and probably would be after him who was as wise as he, the first person I would want to tell would be mother, dear mother. She was a girl once; and will appreciate the loving emotions beating in your breast better than you could hope for. For, after all, "blood is thicker than water."

"A Friend of The Blade" is moved to send the following personal experience which may help some one who is unhappy because of the conditions with which she is surrounded:

The article on drudgery in the Household has moved me to write. I, too, have passed through the trial of hatred of the routine of household duties. At times I felt as though kept in a prisonet, by bars of iron; then I would struggle against my fate, only to find myself more weak and more unhappy than before, and my condition, otherwise, the same. I began to realize I was not doing my duty to my family by this discontent, but was making them unhappy also. The assurance in Romans 8:38-39 has been a great comfort to me. Surely if nothing can separate us from God's love, nothing can separate us from the good things of this life, if we are faithful in the few or lesser things. I have grown to believe that "all things come to him who waits," but we must "learn to labor and to wait." How often the waiting is the harder! Some may call me a fatalist, but I can not tell you the peace that has come to me through this faith. The pleasure of duty well done is sometimes the greater good that can come into our lives, it is even better than love; for love, if you cannot return it, brings with it pain.

I sometimes lighten my household duties by composing verses which, though they possess no great literary merit, help to raise my mind above the sameness of the work.

Although all may not be gifted as this friend, and able to compose verses to help lighten their labors, yet it would be well to follow her example and fill the time with pleasant thoughts and deeds when the feeling of discontent comes on.

"No life is complete which does not sometimes sit trustfully waiting to be fed by God."

May W. wishes to know the qualifications required for a governess, the requisite age, and salary usually paid; and if it would pay a young girl to fit herself for such a position. Will some one who has had experience answer?

Sympathetic tells Sufferer that neuralgia may be cured, or greatly relieved by the use of horse radish prepared as for the table. Apply to the temples, or wrist according to the location of the pain.

Eleanore sends this remedy for this and other sufferers from neuralgia, pleurisy or kidney trouble. Apply to the affected spot a plaster made of the yolk of an egg, and common salt.

Mrs. John C. and others who have written for the address of the lady in Tennessee are hereby informed that it is quite impossible for the editor of the Household page to give addresses for private correspondence, or to attend to such correspondence.

Mrs. C. R. Andrews informs Hannah Myers that the poem she mentions is entitled The First Snowfall. It was written by James Russell Lowell, and may be found in any collection of his poems.

A Friend, who address has been mislaid, sends this answer to Jennie S. in regard to cochineal. It is obtained from a bug found on cactus plants in Mexico, Algeria and the Canary Islands. The bug is removed from the under side of the leaves of the plant, with a hot knife, which causes its instant death. The body is dried and reduced to powder. It is then mixed with various chemicals and the different shades of red coloring matter is obtained. The small, flat bug that infests common oleander plants is a species of this bug, though not valuable for commerce.

History Class asks if it is true that two of our Presidents died on the same day, and if so, when. It is a matter of fact that Thomas Jefferson and John Adams died July 4, 1826, 50 years after signing the declaration of independence. James Monroe died on July 4, 1831.

Social Usage is the name signed to a communication from a lady who wishes to know how to drop an acquaintance who is far from desirable, and who persists in sending invitations to her, calling at the house, etc. If you discontinue returning her calls or accepting her invitations, she should understand that you wish to discontinue the acquaintance. If she still persists in calling upon you, you can excuse yourself from seeing her. No explanation is necessary in such cases.

"Hot, Cross Buns," there is a superstition in some parts of England that if a cake called by the name you have signed, is eaten on Good Friday, it will preserve one from trouble or disaster during the year. These cakes are called Hot Cross Buns because they are marked with a cross before baking and served as hot as possible. We give in the Cook's Department this week a recipe for making them.

The essence of friendship is entireness, a total magnanimity and trust.—Emerson.

THE MERRY-GO-ROUNDS

Have a Subject for Consideration Given Them by Their Chaperone.

As the state president who was appointed to give the subject for april discussion failed for some reason to send it in, Miss Prudence has filled the vacancy with this question, to which she hopes to receive an answer from every member in every state in our Union; since it is personal to each, and can certainly be answered by every individual M. G. R.:

"What especial benefit have you derived from the M. G. R.? In what way (if any) has the Order helped you to improve?"

As this will be something of the nature of an experience meeting, every state report sent in will be published as nearly in full as possible. Let each member condense their opinion into a space of five lines, and send it to their state president at once.

Since the last session California has been admitted to the Union, and the presidency of New York has changed hands. The names of the two new presidents will soon be announced.

Orders for badges have been received from Fred. L. Ratliffe and Edwin Callen.

New members admitted this week are: Household Pet, Carlos, Tuche, N. Y. Girl and Minnie Monroe.

Old members present were: Sweet Sixteen, X Ray, Make Haste, C. M. B., and Trixie Dean.

As the first member of the M. G. R. from Vermont, Miss Prudence extends an especially hearty welcome to

Household Pet, Vt.:—"I would like to make a suggestion to the circle, though, perhaps, you may think me rather audacious since I am a new member; however, I do not believe in people writing if they have nothing to say! My proposition is this: Why can't the M. G. R. have a library? Probably most of them can afford to purchase all the books they want, but there are others that have very few books and yet are filled with a thirst for knowledge that would astonish some of you rich people. If you consider my proposition you may be sure of one who will contribute as much as is in my power towards the library."

Miss Prudence thinks the idea a good one, but how is it to be carried out? Will Pet please explain?

Carlos, Pa.:—"Disreputable, I agree with you. If we are to raise the fallen, we can do it only by giving them a helping hand. Christ, whose mission on earth was to set an example for us, did not shrink from the vilest, but mingled freely with publicans and sinners, and even Dacious must admit that their vice never became a part of his life. I am proud of our Congress for passing the Cuban resolution, and think the Monroe doctrine should be enforced in the Venezuelan question, if the Lion does snarl at us, for robbing him of his victim."

Tuche, Ind.:—"I have followed the M. G. R. discussions on various subjects, and find them both interesting and instructive. I was born and raised on the farm where I still live, my mother dying when I was very young, leaving me in the care of a loving grand-parent. I agree with Grace on the music question; I know our home would not be what it is without music."

Send the new subject by all means, Tuche.

N. Y. Girl, N. Y.:—"I think New England Girl has very queer ideas in regard to bachelors. Some of the best educated and most polished gentlemen I ever met were bachelors, and I'll warrant they were in every way superior to some of the young men she associates with. I can not see why a man is degraded because he prefers living in single blessedness, instead of binding himself for life to a package composed of curl-papers and paint boxes. (I am one of them, too!) Bachelors, come forward and defend yourselves!"

Minnie Monroe, Cal.:—"Surely your little club (or whatever you call the M. G. R.) is elevating and amusing, and hardly knowing it, you are teaching as well as learning something each time The Blade enters your homes. I have heard complaint made by Eastern people in moderate circumstances, that Californians claim that poor people can not make a living here. Now I would say that people in the East who can afford to be bound up one-half the year by snow and ice—feeding and sheltering their stock during that time, could surely not only make a living here, but should be able to lay by something every year.

"Four inches of snow fell about San Francisco, and two inches fell over the southern part of the state during March. Just think of it; people would not believe there was real snow until they had opened their windows and seen it for themselves. Who could not make a living in such a country if he be honest, sober and industrious? I would like to correspond with any who really want to know something about the climate, schools, cost of living, etc., in this state."

C. M. B., Ind.:—"Are there any Sunday school teachers in the M. G. R., O. W. C. or Cozy Corner? If there are, will they make themselves known to me? Will Miss Prudence allow me to ask a Bible question of the M. G. R's? When was the law of the Lord lost, where was it found, and what results attended its recovery?"

X Ray, Neb.:—"The first gun in our national campaign was fired in this city last night, the four Johns, Hon. John M. Thurston, Hon. John L. Webster, Hon. John C. Wharton and Gen. John C. Cowin, making their customary thrilling and eloquent speeches for McKinley."

Trixie Dean, W. Va.:—"What a dull old earth this would be were there no music in it! Religious worship and social gatherings would alike lose half their power to please were it not for music, and to some extent, flowers. I am a musician and an artist, and expect to sketch some of West Virginia's beautiful hills this summer. I extend congratulations to Hazel Thornton and hope her journey on life's Merry Go Round may be happy and successful one, and that she will not forget us altogether, since we shall miss her so much. I admire Phrenologist for saying what he thinks of the peevish set, but beg leave to differ with him."

The president for West Virginia is Miss Mary L. Matlick, of Cecil. Send your opinion on the question given at the head of this column directly to her.

Make Haste, Tenn.:—"If everybody stood back and waited for some one else what kind of a world would we have? If Morse had said: 'Some one else may invent the telegraph,' and every one else from his day to this had said the same thing how many wires would be crossing this noble land of ours? Not one. The world is not run in that way. Men are seeking every day to lead the world on some theme of their own; they are trying to be in front crying 'Eureka,' on all sides, and from the center, and this is what makes a nation or a people prosperous. We must keep our eyes open, and not always be asleep even when we have them shut, if we would be up-to-date people, or the world will silently drop us off at the dead beat depot, and our trip will be at an end. One can scarcely imagine how soon the roll could be called and we be too far behind to answer "here;" we might answer "here," but we should be 'there.'

Let's rouse up! Old members are you all dead, or are you only asleep? Married? No you can't be married, for Hazel Thornton has been the theme of comment for weeks, and I feel satisfied that she has been the only one who has experienced that (miss) fortune in this charming circle for some time.

Look here! The subject chosen by Miss Gibson, of Indiana, is a good one, and if you can't say something on that, you had better drop out of the business room into the mere chatting hall, for we all have our choice; let's pull in and be a little more lively.

There are too many dead members in our band and those who are still alive should have more life, and be wide awake stump stirrers in the fight. I know Miss Prudence has a fancy for those who try even if they fail. We must learn to brace up and bear in mind that ambition is the steam that propels our hopes to the haven of success; and nothing short of perseverance will create enough ambition to speed us up the steep grades of difficulties and disappointments.

"'Cheer on ye bonny blue lads,' (of course the fair sex is always at the wheel) and we can have an interest never before witnessed in our column. We must be encouraged over and again, must encourage ourselves and even flatter ourselves that we can do more than we ever have done, and then with resolution and determination 'try, try again.'"

Evidently Make Haste has not been sleeping during his long absence from the Merry Go Round. On the contrary, he has seemed to grasp the very idea that Miss Prudence has long held that individual effort is the one thing necessary to success in any undertaking; if each member of the M. G. R. would resolve to "say their say" on each subject given for discussion even if they expressed it in half a dozen lines, the state presidents would not be obliged to send in such meager reports, and would not lose interest in their work as a president lately wrote "because the members in this state do not care to write on any subject, and I feel that they do not need my help."

The Chaperone understands that the fact that lack of space prevents the publication of all reports, has its effect on many members who write merely for the pleasure of seeing themselves in print.

But to those who are really seeking improvement this should not be a hindrance. Every effort you make to write a clear concise opinion on any subject, gives your mental forces just that much training, and you derive more substantial benefit from the practice than could come to you from seeing your name in the paper, delightful as that is to most young writers.

Sweet Sixteen asks for an article on the first step to take in beginning a literary career. A common school education is the first step to attain; secondly, my dear, don't permit yourself in writing to indulge in personalities, don't call names. If your opinions differ from those of other people, say so in a lady-like manner, but don't call them "sardonic croakers" or compare them to "green pumpkins;" it isn't a bit dignified, and will detract very much from the force of your arguments. These few suggestions will explain to you perhaps why your letter was "cut" to this last paragraph which has the ring of true metal and is given honorable mention:

Sweet Sixteen, Ark.:—"I never like to converse with any one who always agrees with me. I would rather talk to one who respects me sufficiently to differ and discuss occasionally. But this doesn't apply to all occasions, for when I 'pop the question' I want no difference of opinion at all."

All communications for this department should be addressed to the Blade, Toledo, O., "M. G. R."

The Badges.

Every member of the Merry Go Rounds should show their colors by wearing one of the pretty badges that The Blade had made for that purpose. They are not expensive—only 50 cents apiece—and as brooches are now coming in style again, they will serve a double purpose—as an ornament, and to show membership in Miss Prudence's large and growing society. The Blade has now succeeded in getting enough made to supply everybody, which was not the case in the beginning. Send on your orders, Merry Go Rounds.

The Vanished Voice.

There stood a tree beside his boyhood's door
That faced the west, and often, just before
The sundown, seemed transfigured with the light
That flooded in, and keen upon his sight
Burned images of flame; and from the tree
Fluted a nameless bird so goldenly
He seemed part of the sunset and the sky.

The listener has listened for that cry
Of love and longing many a weary time
And heard it never; nor can mortal rhyme
Encompass half its sweetness. Could the place,
The homely homestead, and the subtle grace
Of youth return, the magic moment when
The westering day shows heaven to mortal men,
Though transiently, perchance the chanting bird
Would be there too, perchance his voice were heard.

The listener listens vainly. Song is rife
Still in the world, still love illumines life,
But he would give all of after-years,
Its triumphs, wisdoms, and revealing tears,
To list that little bird-soul from its nest
Leap into lyric rapture, sink to rest,
Youth in the air, and sunset in the west.
—Richard Burton in Harper's Magazine for August.

LADY CHURCHILL.

She Likes Riding the Patient Little Donkey.

Lady Randolph Churchill is a most enthusiastic bicyclist, but the ankle that she sprained so badly last year still troubles her at times, and sometimes when she takes an outing instead of mounting her wheel she mounts the gallant little donkey that picks its way slowly down the shady little lanes and waits patiently while its rider dismounts and gathers great bunches of wild flowers.

To all Americans there is something so utterly ridiculous in the thought of grown people taking any pleasure in riding one of those tiny, little spindle-legged donkeys that are given over entirely to the children in Central Park.

But in England it is so altogether different. Every private stable shelters two or more of these patient little beasts, and even the Queen doesn't consider it beneath her dignity to mount one. There is even in the peasant mind of England such an inborn reverence for royalty that it would never occur to the simple-hearted villagers that there was anything ridiculous in the sight of her serene Majesty wending her way along the quiet little by-paths on the back of an humble little donkey.

But to a "free thinking" Yankee mind the sight of so much serene royalty being borne along by anything as apparently insecure as donkey legs would prove too much for American risibilities. A six-legged donkey, with two legs right in the middle, would bring a great price at the court.

There is something so altogether pleasant in the picture Lady Churchill presents riding slowly along under the shade trees—a sort of symphony in gray, with her dull gray gown of mohair just exactly the color of the little donkey.

No wonder that she has chosen to try her bicycle rides in this way. For if the reports are true Lady Randolph Churchill will feel like indulging in some quiet little reveries before she takes so important a step. A demure little donkey will pick its way cautiously among stones and roots without the guiding hand of a rider, but a bicycle claims constant thought; and it may be that Lady Randolph Churchill's thoughts will be busy weighing the pros and cons of giving up the title of Lady and accepting plain "Mrs." instead.

The Countess of Craven will take her outing in an elaborately appointed house-parcus. And the young invited guests are looking forward with the greatest pleasure to the visit to the house-boat.

They know that it means a dance every evening on deck, little excursions in the small row boats on moonlight nights and music on the many banjoes and guitars all day.

The Countess de Castellane is rather much of a home body, and takes her pleasures very quietly. She waxes enthusiastic over her tame pigeons that come in flocks every evening at her window to be fed by her, and a great part of her summer vacation she will devote to her beautifully appointed aviary.

The Growing Child.

A mother is too apt to take for granted the confidence of her growing son and daughter. She has led them through childhood into young manhood and womanhood. She unravelled all their little perplexities, and has been the recipient of all their childish joys and sorrows. As children they concealed nothing. She assumes, without thinking, that this state of affairs continues into their adult life. She is sure she "knows all about her children," whereas the fact may be that she knows nothing at all. They outgrew her long ago.

When this difference began the young boy or girl could scarcely say. Sometimes it is sudden, sometimes gradual. It is certain that with adolescence a new life comes to each individual, and that the mother who would retain the trust and aid in forming the character of the budding man or woman must make a special effort to do so.

It is here that mothers often make grave mistakes, and never regain the forfeited friendship of their sons and daughters. Some women persist in treating their children as children long after they are grown men and women, and require the implicit obedience and blind belief of a child from an adult of reason and experience. Other women make an equally unfortunate error in, metaphorically, "washing their hands" of the child they have reared so soon as it tries to act upon its own judgment. "I have nothing more to do with your actions. Now do as you please." That is their position.

One attitude represses confidence; the other rejects it. Both are antagonistic to natural law. Children must become men and women, and we have no right to be angry at or to repel the idea that it is so. But surely we may value the friendship and trust and love of these men and women as highly as we valued the child's faith and loving reliance. That parent is wise who perceives in time the change, and who studies the needs of this formative period, who adapts herself to the new phase, and who begins by new methods to retain the child's trust, while gaining the man's confidence.

This is a more difficult position for the mother, and involves work of a different kind. But it is work that pays. This period of the young life is a critical one, and many life failures of men and women are due to the mistakes or entire blindness of parents who should have known when the important and dangerous crisis had arrived.

A mother spends her physical strength and skill for her child's bodily welfare. She is only glad she has these abilities to give it. When the time comes for the exercise of mother's intuition, and knowledge of the world, and experience of life, she fails miserably. What is the reason? The latter powers are for the child's service as well as the former. And we have no excuse if we do not use them.—Harper's Bazar.

Some Bits of Humor.

"Books that have helped me?" said an eminent American citizen. "I guess that Webster's dictionary contributed as much to my elevation as any. I used to sit on it regularly at meals when I was a small boy."

"Boys" said a teacher in a Sunday-school, "can any of you quote a verse from the Scripture to prove that it is wrong for a man to have two wives?" He paused, and after a moment or two a bright boy raised his hand. "Well, Thomas," said the teacher, encouragingly. Thomas stood up and said, " No man can serve two masters.' "

A POETIC THOUGHT.

Two True Stories About Easter for Flora.

The following pretty poem, written for a little girl by her pastor with no idea of publication, contains a thought very appropriate to the season:

You know, my dear, the ancient tale,
About the Christ-child fair,
Who lived in old Jerusalem
Among the lilies rare.

About his birth at Bethlehem,
And of his cruel cross,
His mother weeping at his side,
Her suffering and her loss.

And last of all, his dark, dark tomb,
Where friends his body bore,
Of his glorious resurrection
And his triumph evermore.

This story's told in every age,
To warm the heart of man;
It whispers to him faith and hope,
It hints the angel plan.

Old Mother Nature likewise tells
A story just as true,
About her child who dwelt on earth,
And how he lived and grew,

How bright spring suns and summer dews
His teachers were, so mild,
They led his feet o'er grassy plains
And kept this beauteous child.

But ah, one day the north winds blew,
His feet were cold and bare,
His brow was pale and damp with death,
Ice thorns were in his hair.

Men mourned—our child is dead they said
And gazed into his tomb,
The trees and flowers dropped all their leaves,
The earth was wrapped in gloom.

But soon again the soft winds blew,
The sun came out and smiled,
The dark tomb op'd its ponderous jaws
And gave back nature's child.

Now, Flora, dear, whene'er you hear
Of Christ, who broke the tomb,
Remember, too, Dame Nature's child
Arising from his gloom.

This Easter Day is meant for both;
The soul, the flower, the clod—
All rise to life from winter's death;
Such is the plan of God.

1896. —A. G. Jennings.

AN EASTER OFFERING.

How Tim Moore Got the Flowers for His Little Sister.

"Hain't they purty Tim? Oh, hain't they purty?" And Millie clasped her hands in ecstasy, as if unable to express her delight in words.

"Hain't they Tim?" she went on, giving her brother a little nudge by way of emphasis, for Tim seemed lost in a reverie, and quite unconscious of his surroundings.

"And they all took some but me," Millie added wistfully; "ev'ry one, even Johnny and Sissy Shaw."

At this Tim brought himself together with a little shake, and facing about, said, "You shall have 'em, Millie."

Now when Tim Moore expressed himself in such a positive manner, things

were very apt to be much as he said. But, nevertheless, Millie could not keep back a somewhat startled little gasp, nor hide the incredulous expression that flitted over her face, and Tim seeing both, said again, "You shall have 'em," then directed his attention to the object of Millie's admiration.

They were standing in the entry of a church, watching the preparations for Easter. Little children were dancing about the altar where some ladies were busily engaged in arranging the flowers as they were brought in.

Tall lilies waved majestically among clumps of fern, queens indeed of flower kind. Roses, red, yellow, pink and white, nodded socially, and clusters of creamy orchids nestled on downy beds of cool green. Oh! 'twas a feast for the eyes, and what a wonder that Millie's grew large, then became moist, while a bit of a quiver ruffled her chin and lips.

"Come," said Tim almost roughly, and he turned away, thrusting his hands in his pockets, and subsiding into gloomy silence; no doubt turning over in his mind a plan for the means of securing the much desired flowers.

O, ye flowers, that I might gather you at will; ye fairest and purest would I pluck, as if ye were indeed free. I would gather you up in armfuls and take you down there in the dark and dismal damp of the city. I would leave you in the foulest place where humanity might be found, that mayhap your purity would penetrate its awful gloom: I would lay you on the face, and in the hands that death has claimed; the face you had never gladdened; the hands you had never caressed, and before you, death should stand appalled, for you are the messengers of life, of life eternal.

I would scatter you lavishly before the children, and smile to see their wonderment. What if ye should be trampled in the gutter? If ye had but eased one heartache ye had fulfilled your mission.

But where are Tim and Millie? Where indeed. Follow me along this narrow and shadowy alley. What! you stumble, and 'tis a man lying yonder. Ah, yes, but hasten on; 'tis but an laborer who sleeps. He rested a bit down there where you see those lights twinkling, and hear the curses and laughter and the music falling. Methinks there are children and a wife waiting for him, or a mother, but, ah! they have learned well to wait.

Now this way, and down, down, down into a cellar. Yes, here we are, and here are Tim and Millie; but, oh! what a wretched home. Millie sits on a store-box, while Tim busies himself in preparing their supper, with now and then a cheerful nod for his sister, and an inspiring "you shall have 'em."

And now the meal is ready, and Tim pours into a bowl some soup, and passes it with a crust of bread

News of the Week.

The Blade is a newspaper for free American citizens, and under the above head, aims to give first, those events which are the history and progress of the world for the week—those which every intelligent man needs to know and should know; second, all important political events; and lastly, the leading minor occurrences that possess interest to every educated and thinking reader.

54TH CONGRESS—FIRST SESSION.

Washington, April 7.—In the Senate there was quite an extensive discussion over the question of the consolidation of fourth-class postoffices in the vicinity of large towns and cities, and the substitution for them of stations, sub-stations and branch offices. The opponents of the system were successful in having its extension restricted—an amendment offered by Mr. Wolcott, of Colorado, favorable to the system having been laid upon the table by a vote of 48 to 7. That decisive vote was followed by the adoption of an amendment offered by Mr. Pasco, of Florida—yeas 36; nays 25, which restricts the consolidation system to the limits of corporation towns and cities.

The committee amendment appropriating $80,000 as additional compensation to the Oceanic Steamship company, for ocean mail service from San Francisco to New Zealand and New South Wales was agreed to—yeas 32; nays 21.

An amendment requiring the expenditure of $50,000 for experiments in rural free delivery was offered by Mr. Butler, of North Carolina, and was agreed to—yeas 27; nays 25. The postoffice appropriation bill was then passed.

The House spent the day in discussing two measures that had not been expected to engage its attention at this time. The first was the bill providing for the establishment of a free public library in Washington, which was sent to conference. The other was the bill reported from the committee on coinage, weights and measures, to adopt the metric system in government business January 1, 1898, and to make it the legal standard of the country January 1, 1901. It was supported by Mr. C. W. Stone (Rep., Pa.) and opposed by Messrs. Bartlett (Dem., N. Y.), Otey (Dem., Va.) and Parker (Rep., N. J.). The House refused—65 to 80—to order the bill to its engrossment and third reading.

Washington, April 8.—Senator Turpie's speech on Cuba was the event of the day in the Senate; in many respects it was the most picturesque utterance heard on that subject. While arguing for radical action on Cuba, even to the extent of sending a fleet to Cuban waters, much of Mr. Turpie's speech was given to sarcasm and ridicule of the course of Mr. Sherman and Mr. Lodge in managing the Cuban resolutions.

Most of the day was given to the Indian appropriation bill, which was not completed. Unanimous consent was secured for the taking up of the resolution for a Senate inquiry into recent bond issues next Tuesday.

The bill to adopt the metric system of weights and measures was sent back to the committee on coinage, weights and measures for further consideration. On the first vote it had a majority of two, but the opposition was aggressive.

The remainder of the day was devoted to debate on the bill to exempt vessels engaged in the coastwise trade from compulsory pilotage laws. The bill was championed by Mr. Payne (Rep., N. Y.), Mr. Simpkins (Rep., Mass.) and opposed by Mr. Minor (Rep., Wis.) and Mr. Cummings (Dem., N. Y.).

The conference report on the agricultural appropriation bill was adopted.

Washington, April 9.—The Senate did a rushing business in the way of private pension bills in the last hour of to-day's session, having cleared the calendar and passed every pension bill on it—seventy-five in number, within sixty minutes. The earlier hours of the session were taken up by the delivery of two prepared speeches, one by Mr. Mantle, of Montana, and the other by Mr. Butler, of North Carolina. Mr. Mantle's speech was mainly an attempted defense of the senators from the silver-producing states, for their action in helping to defeat the Dingley tariff bill, passed by the House in the early part of the session.

The Indian appropriation bill made some progress.

The bill to repeal the compulsory pilotage system so far as it effects sailing vessels engaged in the coastwise trade, was defeated in the House after a day's debate by a vote of 117 to 152.

The amended District of Columbia appropriation bill for the year ending June 30, 1897, was passed after a brief debate. The most notable incident of the debate was a bitter attack by Mr. Fitzgerald (Dem., Mass.) upon the A. P. A. for its attack in the dark, as he expressed it upon the Roman Catholic church of which he was a member which resulted in depriving institutions in the District of Columbia conducted under the auspices of the church of what was justly and legally theirs.

No response was made to Mr. Fitzgerald beyond a bare denial by Mr. Grout (Rep., Vt.) in charge of the bill that it constituted in any sense an attack upon the Catholic church. The vote upon the bill was 134 to 21.

Conference was ordered on the Senate amendments to the postoffice appropriation bill.

Consideration was begun of the "filled cheese" bill (imposing a tax upon its manufacture and sale) and will be continued to-morrow.

Washington, April 10.—The main portion of the session of the Senate to-day was taken up by the Indian appropriation bill—when up by the Indian appropriation bill—the House proposition abolishing the system of contract schools for Indian children giving rise to a long and rather interesting discussion. There was almost a unanimity of sentiment against a sudden change of system from contract schools to government schools, and there was an almost equal unanimity in favor of such a gradual change as would not do injustice either to the religious societies which had established the schools, or to the Indian children who attended them. The matter went over, however, without action.

Earlier in the day a joint resolution on the subject of the imprisonment of Mrs. Maybrick in England was introduced by Mr. Call, of Florida, to the apparent annoyance of Mr. Sherman, of Ohio, chairman of the committee on foreign relations, who declared that such a proposition not have been introduced, as the Senate had no jurisdiction over the subject. He moved to lay the joint resolution on the table, but finally consented to have it referred to the judiciary committee, which disposition was made of it.

A bill giving the aid of the government to a trans-Mississippi and international exposition at Omaha in 1898 was passed, and the Senate adjourned until Monday.

General debate was concluded in the House upon the "filled cheese" bill, which was begun yesterday afternoon. The chief advocates of the measure were Messrs. Grosvenor (Rep., O.), Tawney (Rep., Minn.), and Dolliver (Rep., Ia.). It was opposed by Messrs. McMillan (Dem., Tenn.), Otey (Dem., Va.), Evans (Rep., Ky.), Linney (Rep., N. C.) and others. The objection of several of those who spoke to-day was not to the principle of the bill, but to the extent of taxation sought to be imposed. Efforts will be made to reduce the rate of tax and the schedule of licenses, and if this be accomplished, the opposition to the bill will be comparatively feeble.

The appropriation bill for fortifications and coast defences for the year ending June 30, 1897, was reported by Mr. Hainer (Rep., Neb.) and placed on the calendar.

Washington, April 11.—The only business of importance done by the House was the passage of the "filled cheese" bill, an account of which is given in our Washington dispatches.

Washington, April 13.—In the Senate, the judiciary committee reported adversely on the joint resolution proposing a remonstrance to the British government in Mrs. Maybrick's case, on the ground that the Senate had no jurisdiction over the subject. The report was placed on the calendar and will probably be no more heard of.

The main part of to-day's session was occupied with speeches on the Dupont election case—Senator Burrows, of Michigan, and Brown, of Utah, arguing in favor of Mr. Dupont's right to the seat.

To-day's session of the House under the rules was devoted to consideration of business pertaining to the District of Columbia and various matters of local interest were disposed of. A bill to regulate marriages in the district provoked a long discussion.

WALLER AT HOME.

Complains of Inhuman Treatment in French Prisons.

New York, April 11.—John L. Waller, late United States consul at Tamatave, Madagascar, was a second-class passenger per American line steamer New York, which arrived to-day from Southampton. He stated to a reporter at Quarantine that he was released from prison in France on February 20, exactly eleven months from the time he was sentenced at Madagascar.

Mr. Waller said that while on the guardship at Madagascar and during the passage to France, his treatment was simply inhuman, but that at the prisons where he was confined in France, his lot was no worse than that of the ordinary prisoners. The food served lacked nutriment, and he was obliged to purchase supplies outside, a concession granted by the prison authorities, and for which he was very grateful.

RHODE ISLAND REPUBLICANS.

State Convention Stands for Sound Money.

Providence, R. I., April 10.—The Republican state convention was held here for the election of delegates at large to the national convention at St. Louis.

The following were elected delegates at large: Edward L. Freeman, Central Falls; ex-Mayor Frank F. Onley, Providence; Albert L. Chester, Westerly, and S. W. K. Allen, East Greenwich.

The delegates were not instructed. The only platform adopted was a resolution presented by the Providence Board of Trade which declares in favor of gold as a monetary standard, in favor of a national court of arbitration, and denounced the free coinage of silver.

THE STONE MURDER.

The Real Assassin is Caught and in Prison.

Akron, O., April 9.—Anson Strong did not commit the murder at the Stone house at Tallmadge ten days ago.

Romulus Cotell, alias John Smith, a discharged farm hand, has confessed that the crime was perpetrated by him.

Detectives Doran and DeCelle, of Cleveland, who have been employed on the Stone murder case for the past week, arrested John Smith, the ex-hired man of the Stone family, in Tallmadge last night, and reached the city with him shortly before 10 o'clock. He was immediately placed in the county jail, and the charge entered against him of murdering Alvin N. Stone, Mrs. Stone and Ira Stillson. The detectives have been following Smith's movements very closely the past week, but did not feel convinced of his guilt until yesterday.

Smith is about 20 years of age, and came to Summit county nine months ago, going to work for Mr. Stone. Two weeks

JOHN SMITH.

before the murder he had a disagreement with Stone and left him, going to work for Edward Porter, who lives only a mile away.

Smith was much enamored of Flora, the youngest daughter, and his attentions were distasteful to the father. Flora was the only one of the family not injured by the murderer, and on the morning after the murder, she made the statement that the voice of the murderer "sounded like John's." The name of Smith is an assumed one, his real name being Romulus Coteli. He is a Slav.

The two Cleveland detectives, Doran and DeCelle, have been working on the theory of Smith being the real murderer for several days. It has been uphill work, because the detectives who first took hold of the case, as well as the coroner, had practically acquitted him. However, Doran and DeCelle became convinced in their own minds that Smith was the real murderer, and yesterday morning paid a visit to Tallmadge. At noon they took Smith to the Stone residence, and for six long hours they kept the man in the "sweat box," plying him with questions. The man doggedly insisted that he never committed the murders, but about 7 o'clock broke down and said:

"If I murdered them I did not know it."

This served as a starting point, and, from this, the officers wormed a partial confession from him. In many portions he was uncertain and incoherent, as, for instance, he could not say with what instrument he had committed the murders. His story of the manner in which he had made his way from room to room in the house agrees with the details as already published.

He would not then give an indication of the motive for his committing the crime, but there is but one conclusion to reach, that it was done for the purpose of assaulting Flora Stone, for whom he had conceived an infatuation. Smith's nature is evidently one of bestiality, and every indication points to this motive. His home is in Turin, N. Y. He says he is only 17 years of age, but is evidently about three years older.

AN AWFUL DEED.

Michigan Man Murdered His Entire Family.

Pentwater, Mich., April 10.—Half a century cannot blot out of memory the awful story of last night and to-day which Pentwater has to tell to the world. Her leading business man followed to his very doorstep last night, being shot at at every step, and this morning an attorney, together with his wife and three children, found dead and locked in their home.

A desperate attempt was made last night upon the life of William O. Sands, president of the Sands & Maxwell Lumber Company.

Mr. Sands was on his way home about 9:30 when a man jumped from behind a corner of a street and commenced firing at him with a gun. Mr. Sands started on a run across the street to his home. The would-be assassin followed, still keeping up the fire. Mr. Sands ran into his yard and around his house, and still the villain followed. Five shots were fired in all, three finding resting places in his right arm and one in the leg. The arm is badly shattered, and will have to be amputated.

Suspicion pointed to S. B. Minchall, a local insurance agent and attorney, as the perpetrator of the deed, and it was decided to place him under arrest. The officers found his residence locked and broke the door. A horrible sight was presented. Mrs. Minchall was lying upon the floor of the sitting-room with a bullet-hole in her temple. Near her was the dead body of her daughter Ruby, about 16 years of age. In a corner of the same room lay Minchall with an empty revolver clutched in his hand. He, too, was dead. In an adjoining bed-room were found the bodies of George, aged 4, and his infant brother. They were in bed together. Death had evidently come upon them while they slept.

Pentwater, Mich., April 10.—The developments to-day tend to prove that Minchall's horrible crimes were deliberately premeditated. From a letter written by the murderer found on his premises to-day it appears that he contemplated killing his family two months ago. Fear of poverty is the excuse offered, and the writer asks a Chicago friend to look after the murderer's family in case they survive him. At the time he seems to have been undecided whether to commit the crime. Minchall left another long letter, the gist of which is that Mr. Sands had promised him all his company's business, and now demanded 1-3 of the commission, and Minchall was badly involved, and extreme love for family prompted him to kill them rather than see them suffer.

Pentwater, Mich., April 11.—The wounds of W. B. O. Sands at the hands of S. B. Minshall on Thursday night proved fatal and last evening at 7:30 Mr. Sands died from the shock of his wounds and of the amputation of his arm.

Minshall had the reputation of being an inoffensive sort of man, was good looking, smooth shaven, wore his hair long and bushy, was a pleasant man to meet, but not considered very practical. There was found $19 in his pockets. The house was well furnished, had a piano, but Minshall was about to lose his home, which he had bought on a contract. The daughter was giving music lessons, and was well liked. Last year she was a student at Akeley institute in Grand Haven.

In one of his letters Minshall says: "When I read in the daily papers about a pauper father killing his infant children, I realize that it requires a Spartan character to do such a deed, but think it is a good thing because it spares the children from misery and misfortune."

In a letter addressed to Mr. A. Williams, Rookery building, Chicago, Mr. Minshall states that he had contemplated killing Mr. Sands and then his own family. Minshall, it seems, was an attorney and fire and life insurance agent, and moved from Chicago to Pentwater at the instance of Mr. Sands, who promised him all the insurance of the big lumber firm of Sands & Maxwell. Minshall claims that Sands forced him to give up one-third of his commissions, and had forced other accommodations from him and had cut down his business. He claims he could see nothing ahead but beggary for himself and family, and determined to end all. In this letter Minshall says: "I am going to see Mr. Sands and quietly ask him to return to me the money he has robbed me of, and if he refuses then I will take him with me to mix with the elements. It is better for me and my family to be dead than to be paupers. Thanks to Mr. Sands, I am in a position where the future doesn't look any brighter. He has forced me off the face of the earth, but I can yet do one kind act by ridding the earth of a man whose sole object in life is to devour those who get in his power."

SENATOR FORAKER

Will Present McKinley's Name at St. Louis.

Springfield, O., April 13.—The information comes to-day direct from Senator Joseph B. Foraker, that he will present ex-Governor McKinley's name to the Republican national convention at St. Louis for the Presidential nomination. It was first announced about two months ago by Governor Bushnell, whose home is here, and who is Foraker's bosom friend, that Ohio's new United States Senator would presumably do this. That was at the time that the charges against Foraker of lack of loyalty to McKinley were bitterest, and the announcement was naturally received with a great deal of doubt.

Foraker is expected to create a sensation at St. Louis, as he always does. It was four years ago that he nominated McKinley for governor, which fact has been forgotten by most people. It is stated that Governor Bushnell, who is a warm admirer of McKinley, brought about the agreement by which Foraker is to give McKinley a great send off this time at St. Louis.

It has already been announced from Washington, D. C., that Senator Thurston, of Nebraska, is to second McKinley's nomination. This statement is verified.

DYNAMITE BOMB

Sent to Theodore Roosevelt in His Mail.

New York, April 13.—A package addressed to "Theodore Roosevelt, police headquarters," and marked "medicine," was brought to the general postoffice today by some one of the many collectors of mail from down-town boxes. It bore no postage stamps, and one of the employes at the postoffice tore off the wrappings at one of the ends. The tear revealed the heads of several matches and bits of fuse. The package was turned over to an inspector. It is about seven inches long, three inches in circumference and weighs five ounces. Its contents are not yet known. It will be examined at the police bureau of combustibles to determine whether or not an attempt on the life of the commissioner was contemplated.

Examination showed that by a vigorous tearing apart of brown wrapping-paper the matches would have been rubbed and ignited and set off the fuse, which entered a large cracker. The tube when cut in two exposed fine powder, which flashed up at the touch of a match. Thus, contrary to expectation, the bomb was shown to be genuine, though not so dangerous as to have proved fatal. The brown paper wrapper was closed with sealing-wax. Inside was a covering of cloth which held together the combination of cracker and fuse. The contrivance was clumsily made.

JOHN A. COCKERILL DEAD.

Represented the New York Herald—Was an Ohio Boy.

New York, April 11.—A special cablegram from Cairo, Egypt, says: Colonel John A. Cockerill, the well-known newspaper correspondent, died last night of apoplexy in Shepheard's Hotel.

New York, April 11.—John A. Cockerill was born at Dayton, O., in 1845. His father was a man of means, and intended to give his son a college educa-

JOHN A. COCKERILL.

tion, but the war broke out and the lad entered the army as a drummer boy. After the war had ended young Cockerill became a printer, and did his first work on the Scion of Temperance. Afterwards he was appointed a clerk of the Senate. He next became a partner of Clement L. Vallandigham in the publication of the Dayton Empire, at that time the organ of the Montgomery county Democracy. Later he was a reporter on a paper in Hamilton, where he attracted the attention of J. B. McCullough, editor of the Cincinnati Enquirer, who offered him a position on that paper. He afterwards became managing editor.

He subsequently edited the Washington Post, Baltimore Gazette, St. Louis Post-Dispatch, New York World, and New York Advertiser. He went to Japan a year ago as New York Herald correspondent.

The most dramatic episode in Colonel Cockerill's life occurred while he was living in St. Louis. In the columns of the Post-Dispatch he subjected Colonel Alonzo W. Slayback, of that city, to such criticism that Colonel Slayback became very indignant. He visited Colonel Cockerill in his office. Cockerill, believing that his life was in peril, took a revolver from his desk and shot him dead. This was on October 13, 1882. There was much excitement in St. Louis over the affair. Col. Cockerill was arrested, but the grand jury did not indict him, as the killing was considered done in self-defense.

Col. Cockerill was a facile, graceful and forceful writer, and was regarded as one of the most brilliant men in metropolitan journalism.

NO TREATING IN OHIO.

Norris's Anti-Treat Bill Passed the House.

Columbus, April 8.—The Ohio House of Representatives astonished itself and the neighbors yesterday afternoon by passing the most radical temperance measure that has been presented to this General Assembly. It was the anti-treating bill by Mr. Norris, of Wood county, which makes it a misdemeanor for one person to treat another to any intoxicating liquor, the punishment being a fine of from $1 to $20.

The full text of the bill as passed is as follows:

A BILL

To discourage the drink habit.

Section 1.—Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Ohio, That whoever treats, or offers to treat, another person to an intoxicating drink, or whoever gives, or offers to give, to another person an intoxicating drink in any place where liquor is sold, is guilty of a misdemeanor, and, on conviction thereof, shall be fined not less than one dollar nor more than three dollars, and the costs of prosecution, for the first offense, and for the second offense, under the provisions of this act, he shall be fined not less than three dollars nor more than five dollars, and the costs of prosecution, and for the third offense, under the provisions of this act, he shall be fined not less than ten dollars nor more than twenty dollars, and the costs of prosecution.

Section 2.—That one-half of the fine under the provisions of this act shall go to the informer and prosecuting witness, and the other half shall be turned over to the school fund in the locality where the prosecution occurred.

Section 3.—This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

WANT NONE OF SILVER.

Second District Oregon Democrats Will Name an Independent Ticket.

Portland, Ore., April 13.—A number of Democrats who favor the financial policy of President Cleveland held a meeting in this city for the purpose of discussing the advisability of putting in the field an independent candidate for Congress in the Second district against the regular nominee of the Democratic convention which declared for free coinage. It was practically decided to name an independent candidate. Both the regular Democratic and Republican candidates in the Second district are in favor of free coinage, and the Cleveland Democrats expect to draw largely from the Republicans who favor the gold standard. A. S. Bennett, the regular Democratic nominee from the Second district, has declined the nomination.

ELECTROCUTION IN OHIO.

Bill Passed to Substitute It for the Hangman's Noose.

Columbus, O., April 9.—Electrocution is now the only legal method for capital punishment in Ohio.

Senator Jones's bill so providing was called up in the House the first thing this morning by Mr. Reed, of Huron. It provoked a lengthy discussion and considerable opposition.

The measure was passed by a vote of 59 ayes to 33 nays.

INGERSOLL IN A PULPIT.

Chicago Witnessed a Remarkable Scene on Sunday.

Chicago, April 13.—Robert G. Ingersoll, Rev. John Rusk and 3,000 people united yesterday in presenting a spectacle the like of which had never been seen on earth.

Yesterday, at the invitation of a preacher and of a church marching under the scriptural banner Ingersoll has trampled in the dust, this prince of American agnostics spoke, and 3,000 followers of that scriptural banner crowded the Columbia Theater to hear him. For once the animosities engendered by bitter words were laid aside. The great audience bowed its head in silent sympathy with an orthodox Christian invocation to God and petition for the blessing of Christ; then listened for two hours to the eloquent denier of all that is called supernatural or divine, of all that is unknowable, except by faith, in religion.

And Ingersoll was as magnanimous as his audience. Not once did he utter a word to wound the sensibilities of his hearers. Orator and auditors met on common ground of considering what can be done and should be done to uplift humanity. There was no scoffing at religion, no jeering at simple faith, and when the logic of the speaker's thought roused an echo in the hearts of his hearers, they gave him generous meed of applause.

These bursts of approval were anything but infrequent. The audience of Christians heard from the infidel thoughts both old and new, but all clothed in beautiful language, to most of which they could say amen.

Colonel Ingersoll took for his text, "There is no Darkness but Ignorance." He spoke in part as follows:

"Every human being is a necessary product of conditions, and every one is born with defects for which he cannot be held responsible. Nature seems to care nothing for the individual, nothing for the species. The present is the child, and the necessary child, of all the past and the mother of all the future. Every human being longs to be happy, to satisfy the wants of the body with food, with roof and raiment, and to feed the hunger of the mind, according to his capacity, with love, wisdom, philosophy, art and song.

"In all that is, in mountain range and billowed plain, in winding stream and desert sand, in cloud and star, in snow and rain, in calm and storm, in night and day, in woods and vails, in all the colors of divided light, in all there is of growth and life, and floats, and swims, in all that moves, in all the forms and qualities of things, man found the seeds and symbols of his thoughts, and all that man has wrought becomes a part of nature's self, forming the lives of those to be. All that is natural. All is naturally produced. Beyond the horizon of the natural man cannot go.

"Yet for many ages man in all directions has relied upon and sincerely believed in the existence of the supernatural. For many centuries his only conception of morality was the idea of obedience, not to facts as they exist in nature, but to the supposed command of some being superior to nature. During all these years religion consisted in the praise and worship of the invisible and infinite, of some vast and incomprehensible power—that is to say, of the supernatural.

"There are very many who have reached the conclusion that the supernatural has nothing to do with real religion. Religion does not consist in believing without evidence or against evidence. It does not consist in worshiping the unknown or in trying to do something for the infinite. Ceremonies, prayers, and inspired books, miracles, special providence, and divine interference all belong to the supernatural and form no part of real religion.

"Ignorance being darkness, what we need is intellectual light. The most important things to teach as the basis of all progress is that the universe is natural. Man should cease to expect any aid from any supernatural source. By this time he should be satisfied that worship has not created wealth, and that prosperity is not the child of prayer. He should know that the supernatural has not succored the oppressed, clothed the naked, fed the hungry, shielded the innocent, staid the pestilence, or freed the slave.

"You know as well as I do that it would be far better for the people of a town having a population of 4,000 or 5,000 to have one church, and the edifice should be of use not only on Sunday, but on every day of the week. In this building should be the library of the town. It should be the club-house of the people, where they could find the pricipal newspapers and periodicals of the world. Its auditorium should be like a theatre. Plays should be presented by home talent, an orchestra formed. Lectures delivered. The people should meet there at any time they desire. The women could carry their knitting and sewing, and connected with it should be rooms for the playing of games, billiards, cards and chess. Everything should be made as agreeable as possible. The citizens should take pride in this building. They should adorn its niches with statues and its walls with pictures. It should be the intellectual center. They could employ a gentleman of ability, possibly of genius, to address them on Sundays on subjects that would be of real interest, of real importance. They could say to this minister:

"'We are engaged in business during the week. While we are working at our trades and professions we want you to study, and on Sunday tell us what you have found out.'

The speaker then spoke of crime and means by which it may be lessened; of homes for all, as the men who cultivate the earth should own it; of marriage and divorce laws; of the labor question in its various phases, and of educating the children. In closing he said:

"This, in my judgment, is real religion. To do all the good you can is to be a saint in the highest and noblest sense. To do all the good you can—this is to be really and truly spiritual. To relieve suffering, to put the star of hope in the midnight of despair—this is true holiness. This is the religion of science. The old creeds are too narrow; they are not for the world in which we live. The old dogmas lack breath and tenderness; they are too cruel, too merciless, too savage. We are growing grander and nobler.

"The firmament inlaid with suns is the dome of the real cathedral. The interpreters of nature are the true and only priests. In the great creed are all the truths that lips have uttered and in the real litany will be found all the ecstasies and aspirations of the soul, all dreams of joy, all hopes for nobler, fuller life. The real church, the real edifice, is adorned and glorified with all that art has done. In the real choir is all the thrilling music of the world, and in the starlit aisles have been and are the grandest souls of every land and clime.

"There is no darkness but ignorance. Let us flood the world with intellectual light."

GRAVE CHARGE

Against the Governor of Utah by a Legislator.

Salt Lake, Utah, April 13.—E. B. Critchlow, a Gentile member of the legislature, in a half-column article in the Tribune, attacks the alleged methods of the Mormon church officials on political matters. He makes the statement that not a single bill passed by the last legislature was signed by the governor until it had first been submitted to the church officials.

Governor Wells has been interviewed on the subject, and says the statement is unqualifiedly false.

RAINED RED AND YELLOW.

The Fall Was of Clay and Startled Residents of Lander.

Denver, Col., April 13.—A special from Lander, Wyo., says: A singular phenomenon was a shower in this city last night. First red and then yellow clay fell, followed a little later by almost black mud. People who were out in the storm looked as though they had been churned in a tub full of mud.

Oregon Republicans.

Portland, Ore., April 11.—The Republican state convention yesterday afternoon adopted a platform which declares for the use of both gold and silver with such restrictions as will secure the maintenance of values of the two metals.

The delegates to the state convention were instructed for McKinley.

Their platform in part was as follows:

"We declare for bi-metallism. The interest of the country demands that every dollar, paper or coin, shall be as good as any other dollar."

The following were chosen delegates to the St. Louis convention: R. A. Booth, Chas. Hilton, R. H. Dodd and J. W. Meldrum.

SENATOR CULLOM DENIES

To Otis Humphrey That He Has Withdrawn From the Race.

Springfield, Ill., April 14.—Hon. J. Otis Humphrey, who is a delegate to the national Republican convention from the Seventeenth Illinois district, and who is under instructions to vote for McKinley, has received the following telegram from Senator Cullom from Washington: "I have not withdrawn, and do not intend to withdraw."

The Cullom club of this city has sent out a circular letter to all the delegates

SENATOR CULLOM.

elected to the state convention, asking them to vote down in the convention any instructions to the delegates to the national convention.

Clarence P. Johnson, of this city, the state president of the A. P. A., and Will D. Newton, of Bloomington, the state secretary of the order, are engaged in organizing clubs in the state in the interest of Congressman Linton, of Michigan, as a Presidential candidate.

FOREIGN NEWS.

IT IS HOLY WAR.

Khalifa Has Ordered That a Big Tax Be Levied.

Cairo, April 8.—Each additional budget of news from the front increases the anxiety here in unofficial circles as to the fate of the vanguard of the Anglo-Egyptian forces operating up the Nile as a preliminary to the advance in force upon Dongola, for which troops are being rapidly concentrated at Wady-Halfa. The news of the movement southwards of the troops has spread with the wonderful rapidity which has frequently been noticed as one of the features of campaigning in the Soudan. While the British intelligence department experiences the greatest difficulty in obtaining information regarding the movements of the Dervishes, the latter, apparently having spies in all quarters, succeed in transmitting important news with lightning-like rapidity from one part of the country to the other. Thus, in some mysterious manner, the news of the Anglo-Egyptian advance has been communicated to the most distant quarters of the Mchammedan world and the departure of pilgrims for Mecca has been suspended, which means that the Khalifa is calling upon his warriors to muster to the standard, and that the Jehad (Holy War), which he recently proclaimed against Egypt, is to be pushed with all the desperate energy of the Dervish leaders.

The Khalifa has decreed that tribes immediately collect and forward to Omdurman a heavy war tax that the pick of the warriors he hurried to that camp and that all preparations be made for a long campaign. He expects, it is currently reported, to muster an army of 60,000 men, composed of the best fighting men of the Soudan at Omdurman by September, when the Anglo-Egyptian advance will be met by the Khalifa forces. The latter has recalled the Dervish armies from Fashoda and Darfur, and it is believed that the siege of Kassala will shortly be raised, in order that the Dervishes now before that place may be utilized at Khartoum and Dongola.

The Khalifa, writing to the sheik of Assouan, under date of December last, said that he was always to submit to the authority of the Khedive of Egypt, as the representative of the sultan, but that he would "resist to the death any expedition coming from Egypt so long as the British occupy the country."

The Khalifa concluded:

"I am aware that the British desire to have me assassinated, but I have taken precautions that none of the European prisoners shall survive my murder."

Though Wady-Halfa is really the base of the Anglo-Egyptian operations Akasheh, a place of little importance, about ninety miles south of Wady-Halfa, is the present base of operations. It is to that point that the light railroad is being pushed for the conveyance of men, supplies, etc., and there, it is believed, that the first fighting will occur, for telegraphic communication with the vanguard occupying Akasheh has already been twice cut off, and the Dervishes are believed to gather in force in the vicinity of that place. Hence the anxiety here.

Akasheh was occupied by a small column of troops under Major Collinson, without opposition, on March 20, and from that time on reinforcements and stores have been pushed forward by railroad when possible and by river boats when the railroad could not be used. Akasheh is now being strongly fortified. The Sirdar of the Anglo-Egyptian army, Sir Herbert Kitchener, is at present in supreme command of the operations. But it is expected that the wiseacres of the British war office will replace him in command of the troops by an older officer, one more experienced in the handling of large bodies of troops, before the real advance on Dongola commences. Some man like that Grenfell, Buller or Wood will, it is believed, succeed Kitchener before September.

TURKEY TREACHEROUS.

United States Must Look to Russia for Satisfaction.

Constantinople, April 11.—Although the Turkish government has officially announced that the missionaries in Asia Minor will not be expelled so long as they comply with the laws, it becomes more and more apparent as facts leak out, that the Rev. George Knapp, one of the missionaries at Bitlis, has been expelled in spite of the understanding in his case arrived at between United States Minister Terrell and the Turkish government after it had been proposed to try Mr. Knapp on the charge of inciting Armenians to revolt against the government.

The missionaries place little faith in the assurance of the porte that it is not intended to expel them from Asia Minor. Some pretext for their expulsion, they believe, will be found whenever the porte deems it necessary. The future of the missionaries depends upon Russia, and it is upon the Russian government and not the Turkish government that influence should be brought to bear in order to protect the lives and property of the missionaries. The sultan is little more than a puppet in the hands of the czar. But will the czar renounce his intention to Russianize Asia Minor? This is a question which the missionaries are now asking themselves.

Constantinople, April 14.—The thorough vacillation which the action of the sultan towards the Protestant and Catholic missionaries in Asia Minor has received through the Associated Press has had a decidedly beneficial effect. The United States charge d'affaires, Mr. John W. Riddle, has received a written assurance from the Turkish government that the Rev. George P. Knapp, the American missionary recently expelled from Bitlis, will be delivered to the United States consul at Alexandretta.

It is further stated that the sultan's irade providing for the expulsion of the other missionaries from Asia Minor has been repealed, and, for the present at least, the missionaries need not anticipate any further trouble.

It is understood that in both these cases the sultan has acted upon the advice of the Russian ambassador.

CORONATION OF THE CZAR.

Arrangements for the Great Event Are About Completed.

London, April 13.—The arrangements for the coronation of the Czar of Russia are now practically complete. May 26 has been fixed as the date for the ceremony, which will occur amid unwonted splendor at Moscow. The full imperial regalia will be taken, with the gilt state carriages, from the Winter Palace at St. Petersburg and conveyed by special trains to Moscow.

An elaborate programme of festivities will precede the event itself and succeed it, extending from May 18, the Emperor's birthday, to June 6, the birthday of the Empress. The coronation will take place in the Imperial Palace in the Kremlin. This famous structure contains nearly 700 apartments. Large sums are being expended upon the regilding in heavy gold layers of the domes, spires and cupolas of the churches of the city.

Estimates vary widely as to the amounts the state will expend in connection with the ceremony, but in view of the probable magnificence of the function, the outlay will not fall much short of 20,000,000 roubles. This is much more than was expended at the coronation of the Czar Liberator, the late Emperor. The Russia of to-day has greatly increased in national wealth and in available treasure. Czar Nicholas, moreover, is not the economist his father was. While his personal habits are modest enough for a monarch, he is inclined to public displays.

CRISIS IS NEAR.

Rumor of a Struggle Favorable to Cubans.

New Orleans, April 14.—The Picayune today prints the following from its special correspondent:

Havana, April 5.—The condition of affairs is continuing to draw to a crisis, and soon there will be a clash which will either redound for the benefit of the Spaniards or the Cubans. For the past four days no official news has ben given out at the captain-general's office, and rumors are rife of a struggle in which the insurgents came out victorious. No details can be obtained, but there has been considerable hurrying and scurrying around the palace.

A dispatch from Matanzas to-day announces that the insurgent incendiary, Timoteo Mesa, was shot this morning. It is reported here that it was Collao, the insurgent leader, who, with 800 men, set fire to the town of Santiago de Las Vegas on Friday last. There will be more executions this week. The government has ordered a horse levy, and will purchase for ready cash here, all horses not required for business purposes. They must be delivered to the authorities within a short period, and those who fail to comply with the order will be considered traitors, and their horses will be confiscated.

The new chamber elected on Saturday in Madrid, will certainly support the government in resisting American interference in Cuba, and that it will also be a very strong protectionist body.

The election in Cuba yesterday was quiet. The result was inevitable, as the government candidates had no opposition.

Battle of Camajuani.

Havana, April 10.—General Oliver, near Camajuani, province of Santa Clara, has had a severe engagement with 600 insurgents under Jose Gonzalez, the colored leader, and others, resulting in the defeat of the insurgents with a loss of 30 killed and many wounded. The troops lost 15 killed and had 26 wounded. The insurgents drew the troops into an ambuscade in a densely wooded ravine. Behind earthworks completely masked with brush the insurgents awaited the troops.

Scouts sent forward by the Spanish commander were allowed to pass, but when the troops were well inside the ambuscade a dynamite bomb was suddenly hurled into their ranks, exploding and killing several men and wounding a number of others, besides almost causing a panic. At first the Spanish infantry gave way, being taken so completely by surprise and seeing many soldiers falling here, without being able to do more than fire apparently into thick bushwood from which came the flashes of flame which told of the presence of insurgents.

Later, however, the troops were rallied and made a splendid dash forward and up the side of the hills, over the earthworks, driving the insurgents before them at the point of the bayonet and shooting them down as they fled. Thus the fire of the enemy was quickly silenced and the troops captured and razed the insurgents' earthworks on both sides of the ambuscade, where they found a number of boxes of abandoned ammunition and several rifles, etc.

Burned Plantations.

Havana, April 11.—The insurgents have burned the splendid machinery houses of the central plantations of Diana and Barbon, near Noralito, the approximate loss being $1,200,000.

The insurgents have also burned 90,000 tons of cane on the plantation of Santa Gertrudis, belonging to Antonio Gonzalez Mendonza.

Filibusters Landed.

Key West, Fla., Fla., April 11.—News was received here last night of the landing on Cuban soil of the expedition commanded by Col. Monson Aguirre, which was composed of 45 men, 800 rifles, 400,000 cartridges and a large amount of dynamite. Although the expedition cost but $50,000 it is considered as important as those of Garcia and Calazo, because no money was spent on a steamer for it. Senor Colas, with special orders from Delegate Palama, managed the affair in Key West and Tampa. Word has also been received here that two schooners loaded with arms and ammunition but having no man aboard except those in the crews had arrived safely in Cuba, leaving their cargoes in the hands of General Macco's army.

CONFIRMED IN MADRID.

Report That President Cleveland Has Sent Word to the Premier.

London, April 14.—A dispatch from Madrid to the Pall Mall Gazette published this afternoon says:

"Senor Canovas del Castillo (the Spanish premier) is ill, and cannot be interviewed. His relatives, however, confirm the existence of a communique from President Cleveland. But, in the present state of public feeling, it will be impossible for the government to accept his offer. Matters are very complicated, and while the government will do everything in its power to avoid a quarrel with the United States, it will prefer to fight rather than lose Cuba through foreign pressure. The coming cortes will grant Cuba every reasonable franchise to be enjoyed under the Spanish flag."

MORAL EFFECT GOOD.

Soudan Expedition Has Aided the Italians.

New York, April 14.—A dispatch to the Herald from Wady-Halfa, Egypt, says:

Sarras and Akasheh have been strongly garrisoned. The railway between these points is being pushed forward as rapidly as possible.

The dervishes at Suarda, who number 3,000, have advanced their posts to Megrakeh, distant 15 miles from Akasheh, the main body of dervishes still remaining at Dongola.

The moral effect of the announcement of the expedition has been excellent in the Soudan, and has been of the utmost service to the Italians at Kassala.

DERVISHES COMPLETELY ROUTED

Their Retreat Proved to Be a Disastrous One.

Massowah, April 13.—Further advices from the front show that the dervish retreat after the recent fighting was in the nature of a complete rout. Col. Stevani burned the entrenchment works of Tucruf and Gulusit. The retreating dervishes inflicted considerable loss on the Shoans.

The Matabeles Win.

Buluwayo, April 13.—Detail have been received here of the encounter with the Matabeles, of Capt. Brand, as the result of which he suffered a reverse and was compelled to ask for assistance from Buluwayo.

The Matabeles surrounded and attacked Capt. Brand's column, consisting of 130 men, which had been sent to relieve Gwanda, twenty-eight miles south of here on the Tuli road.

Highest of all in Leavening Power.—Latest U. S. Gov't Report

Royal Baking Powder

ABSOLUTELY PURE

WASHINGTON.

SECTARIAN APPROPRIATIONS.

District of Columbia Appropriation Remodelled.

Washington, April 8.—The District of Columbia appropriation which was recommitted to the committee by the House on account of the aid carried by it to the charitable institutions was to-day considered by that committee and remodelled so far as it applied to private institutions. The question which caused so fierce a contest in the House was disposed of by a very sweeping amendment. All of the items for private and semi-private institutions which have heretofore depended largely upon the government for support were stricken from the bill. In place of these appropriations a lump sum of $64,700, equal to the total of the various items, is added for the relief and care of the poor and such charitable and reformatory work as have heretofore been provided for by direct appropriations, to be expended by the district commissioners either under contract or by employing the public institutions of the District. Contracts are limited to June 30, 1897, the end of the next fiscal year, the commissioners are required to render an account of their disbursements and strict limitations are placed upon their powers. The amendment ends with this clause: "That no part of the money herein appropriated shall be paid for the purpose of maintaining or aiding by payment for services, or otherwise, any church or religious denomination, or any institution or society which is under sectarian or ecclesiastical control."

The act originating in the Senate to authorize the leasing of lands for educational purposes in Arizona to-day became a law without the President's approval.

The conferees of the two Houses of Congress yesterday reached an agreement on the agricultural appropriation bill, and the report was presented to the Senate. The bill as agreed upon appropriates $3,802,792, or about $1,000 less than last session's bill carried. The amendments of the Senate, which were accepted, relate in the main to the divisions and striking out the provision for the organization.

Senator Hoar, from the judiciary committee yesterday favorably reported the House bill reducing the cases in which the death penalty may be inflicted in the United States courts. Mr. Hoar sought to have a time set for the consideration of the report, but failed to secure unanimous consent.

"McClellan is all right, but he will chew gum," was the remark heard in the press gallery a few days ago. Every one looked for Congressman McClellan, of New York, and found him chewing gum in a most energetic manner. He chews gum most of his time while watching the proceedings of the House. McClellan is a handsome and athletic looking young man who is in high favor with Tammany. He is a son of the famous George B. McClellan.

A good deal of disappointment has been experienced by managers of campaigns for the various Presidential candidates over the fact that after having spent a large sum of money to secure lapel buttons adorned with pictures of their favorite candidate, and after having distributed them so lavishly, comparatively few of them are worn. These buttons cost two cents each when ordered by the hundred thousand, and 25 per cent more when ordered by the thousand. An even 100,000 was struck off with McKinley's picture and these buttons are more commonly displayed here than the buttons of any other candidate.

The House committee on judiciary today completed its work upon the bankruptcy bill and decided to report the bill to the House this week. The measure is based upon the old Torrey bill, which has been before Congress for several years.

FILLED CHEESE BILL PASSED.

Democrats Solid Against It, and a Few Republicans.

Washington, April 13.—After two days' debate the House late Saturday, by a vote of 160 to 58, passed the Grosvenor "filled cheese" bill. The Democrats voted solidly against the measure, together with eleven Republicans. Practically the only amendment adopted was the one reducing the tax on retail dealers from $40 to $12.

The bill requires the manufacturers of filled cheese to pay a tax of $400 annually, the wholesale dealers $250 and the retail dealers $12, and for failure to pay such tax imposes upon the manufacturers a fine of from $400 to $3,000, upon wholesale dealers from $250 to $1,000, and upon retail dealers from $40 to $500. It also requires the branding of "filled cheese" and its sale only from original packages. The penalty for false branding is a fine of from $50 to $500. The bill requires all retail dealers to post conspicuously a sign "Filled Cheese Sold Here." In addition it imposes a tax of 1 cent per pound on filled cheese, the tax to be paid by the manufacturer. Imported "filled cheese" is subjected to a duty of 8 cents per pound. The act is to go into effect on the 19th day after its passage.

The following Republicans voted against the bill:

Aldrich (Ill.), Belknap (Ill.), Brumm (Pa.), Cannon (Ill.), Connolly (Ill.), Evans (Ky.), Lorimer (Ill.), Long (Kan.), McCall (Tenn.), Tracewell (Ind.), Walker.

THE PACIFIC CABLE.

Proposed to Make the Government's Lien Iron Clad.

Washington, April 8.—The Pacific cable bill was the subject of discussion to-day by the House committee on commerce. The committee tried to frame an amendment which would insure to this government a first lien on the property and right of way for its business under any conditions which might arise in the future. There was a unanimity of sentiment that the bill should be drawn to make the government's lien absolutely iron clad and impossible to transfer or displacement, but no satisfactory wording of the bill was drawn. The subject will be further considered at the next meeting. The bill on which the committee is working and which it probably will report in an amended form is that of the Pacific Cable Company, of New York. Several amendments were made to-day. The most important one reduces the amount of the annual subsidy for 20 years from $160,000, the company's proposition, to $130,000. Another amendment to insure the completion of the cable to China was adopted, as some members thought the company might conclude not to extend it beyond Japan. Other amendments were added which were mostly in the wording of the bill to leave no loopholes which might be the basis of a controversy in the future.

THE NAVAL BILL.

The Senate Committee Sends in Its Report.

Washington, April 9.—The Senate committee on appropriations to-day reported the naval appropriation bill. The principal amendments are as follows:

For testing methods of throwing high explosives from guns on board ship with the ordinary velocities, $50,000; purchase of additional land adjoining the naval station at Port Royal, S. C., $5,000; paving streets at the Annapolis Academy, $13,000; also a provision directing the board of visitors to the academy to examine and report upon the desirability of purchasing additional land for the academy.

The provision regarding large and swift torpedo boats is changed by reducing the number from five to three and increasing the speed of those from 26 to 30 knots, and reducing the cost from $875,600 to $800,000. Instead of ten or more additional small torpedo boats the number is limited to ten, and their cost is made $500,000 instead of $800,000. A provision is added that not more than two of the battle ships and not more than three of the torpedo boats shall be built in one yard, or by one contracting party, the contract to be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder. The provision compelling one battleship to be built on the Pacific coast is modified so as to provide that it must cost not more than 5 per cent. more than the lowest accepted bid. The provision compelling the building of one torpedo boat on the Pacific coast is stricken out. The time of making contracts is extended from 90 to 120 days. A provision is made authorizing the secretary to contract for the building of two sub-marine torpedo boats of the Holland type at a cost not to exceed $175,000 each, but no action shall be taken until the Holland boat now being built shall be fully tested to the satisfaction of the secretary and accepted. The appropriation for construction and machinery is reduced from $7,670,679 to $7,370,679. The secretary is authorized to have one of six new gunboats authorized by the last Congress built and furnished for a training ship for the naval academy.

AN EARLY ADJOURNMENT.

Some Important Measures Yet to Be Passed Upon.

Washington, April 13.—An unusually early adjournment of Congress is being predicted by the leaders, and every sign points to the fulfillment of their prophecies. No Congress in many years has made the record for the transaction of routine business which stands to the credit of the present one, so far as the lower House is concerned, at any rate. With all the regular appropriation bills except two, already passed by the House, with one of those remaining reported from the committee, and likely to be passed with only a day or two of debate, and with the other in process of preparation, House leaders are placing the limit of this session at the first of June, allowing, as they think, sufficient time for the Senate to take care of the important bills sent it from the House.

No other business, except the regular appropriations, is absolutely necessary to be done, and although the House may take up some of the most pressing matters before it, such as the settlement of the Pacific railroad debts, the statehood and bankruptcy bills, it is expected that many other minor matters will be passed over in the interest of an early adjournment. It seems probable that the House will have passed the last of the appropriation bills by the 15th of May. Of these bills, five—the pension, military academy, urgent deficiency, diplomatic and consular and army bills—have been signed by the President, and are law. The agricultural bill has been passed by both Houses, and is ready for the President's signature. The postoffice bill has been passed by both Houses, but the Senate amendments have not yet been agreed to by the House, and the legislative, executive and judicial bill is also in conference between the two Houses. The Indian bill is in the Senate, and the naval bill is ready for consideration. The sundry civil and the river and harbor bills have been sent to the Senate and referred to the committees. In the House the fortifications bill stands ready for consideration, and the last of the list, the general deficiency, is being prepared by the appropriations committee. There remains but two appropriation bills to be passed by the House.

The Senate committee is well up with its work on appropriation bills, and the Senate is not far behind. There are some indications that it will require until June 1 to accomplish the results in prospect. With the appropriation bill out of the way, it will be difficult to hold the Senate in session for any purpose. Consequently the prevailing opinion in the Senate is that the final adjournment of the session will not be postponed far beyond the beginning of June 1.

It is admitted that if adjournment is reported as early as the majority predict and seems to desire, a great many questions which it was hoped they would dispose of, will be left suspended in the air.

GROSVENOR'S FIGURES.

McKinley's Prospects Have Improved Astonishingly.

Washington, April 13.—Gen. Grosvenor, who keeps close tab on election of delegates, said Sunday night:

"During the past week the McKinley situation has improved beyond our own anticipation of a week ago. The following list is made up not from speculation, not from newspaper rumors, nor yet from imagination, but is based upon telegraphic and official reports up to Sunday morning. Yesterday I took great pains to telegraph to every state where there is any uncertainty about the situation, and had prompt responses from gentlemen representing all the candidates—McKinley, Reed and Allison. I can give the names of the contestants, and the attempt of any man to sneer at this list will count for nothing among men of intelligence. The New York Tribune this morning gives to McKinley 256 delegates. I add to that the unelected delegates in Ohio and Indiana, as I have done all along, and then, with superior knowledge, add a few who are not counted by the Tribune, and the discrepancy between my figures and theirs is very slight. I state now without qualification that McKinley has more delegates elected—more men elected to the convention who will stay in the convention—than I have claimed for him in the following table: Alabama, 6; Arkansas, 16; Florida, 8; Georgia, 19; Illinois, 8; Indiana, 30; Kansas, 20; Louisiana, 8; Minnesota, 18; Mississippi, 18; Missouri, 12; Nebraska, 6; New Jersey, 4; New York, 4; Ohio, 46; Oregon, 8; Pennsylvania, 2; South Carolina, 17; South Dakota, 8; Texas, 12; Virginia, 2; West Virginia, 2; Wisconsin, 24; New Mexico, 4; Oklahoma, 4; Kentucky, 6; Utah, 1; Tennessee, 2; total, 315.

"During the coming week McKinley's strength will grow rapidly by the conventions in Kentucky, Nebraska and New Jersey, and the election of district delegates throughout the entire territory. I confidently predict that before the first day of May McMcKinley will have secured a majority of the entire convention, with the great states of Michigan, West Virginia, Missouri, Delaware, Washington, North Carolina and North Dakota holding their conventions in the month of May."

AFTER SECRETARY MORTON.

A Disappointed Chicago Seed Firm His Accuser.

Washington, April 11.—The recent closing of a contract for furnishing seeds for general distribution by the government has resulted in the filing of charges at the department of agriculture by Breslan, Goodwin & Co., a Chicago seed firm, against Secretary Morton. The allegations are that their bid, though lowest, was refused because the firm had urged the passage of the resolution providing for the revival of the distribution of seed notwithstanding Secretary Morton's protests; that reports furnished by officers to the department to Secretary Morton, to Senator Proctor, of Vermont, chairman of the Senate committee on agriculture, and to Mr. Wadsworth, chairman of the House committee, had been manipulated in order to show that the firm's seeds were below the standard; that Assistant Secretary Dabney had insisted on the company in case it received the award, using the machinery of the Brown bag filling machine company and that Mr. Dabney had decided against the company because of the refusal to do this. It was alleged furthermore that the secretary and his assistants had falsely stated that the company refused to use its name on the seed package.

Secretary Morton and the other officials of the agricultural department make an absolute denial of the truth of the charges and say the award of the seed contract was based on a percentage of purity and germinative power of the seeds tested by the department last year at a time when there was no prospect of further distribution.

FITZHUGH LEE

Appointed United States Consul General at Havana.

Washington, April 13.—The President to-day sent to the Senate the nomination of Fitzhugh Lee, of Virginia, to be consul-general of the United States at Havana, Cuba, vice Ramon O. Williams, resigned.

The resignation of Ramon O. Williams from his office as consul-general of the United States at Havana, which was made public through the nomination of Gen. Fitzhugh Lee as his successor, has caused no surprise here. For months past rumor

FITZHUGH LEE.
Named To-day to Succeed R. O. Williams as Consul General to Havana.

has been busy with Mr. Williams's name and it has repeatedly been stated during that time that he had resigned. The denials that were obtained from official sources were always so phrased as to carry the statement that Mr. Williams was at the time of denial still in office, and the conviction obtained, based not only on these denials, but on certain expressions let fall by Mr. Williams during his visit to Washington last year, that his resignation has been at the disposal of the President for some time past.

It is known that Mr. Williams has been desirous to surrender his office, having accumulated a private fortune, being interested in private business ventures, and more than all else, being thoroughly tired of the official duties of his place.

Touching the manner in which he has discharged those duties, officials of the State department are full of praise, and Mr. Williams leaves the consular service with the reputation of being the model consular officer of the United States. He has been 22 years in the service, being appointed in 1874, vice consul-general at Havana, and being promoted to consul-general ten years later. He was born in the district of Columbia and was appointed from New York.

MILLENIAL EXHIBITION

To Be Given by Hungary Will Interest Americans.

Washington, April 13.—United States Consul Hammond at Buda Pest transmits to the State Department an interesting report upon the millenial exhibition at that place to commemorate the one thousandth anniversary of the foundation of Hungary, which he says will be of peculiar interest to American tourists, running through the entire summer and fall of this year. Some of the features of the celebration will be an artistic procession in which the participants will illustrate in their dress the costumes of the Hungarians by periods during the past 1,000 years; the opening of 500 schools by the government and the assemblage of a number of congresses scientific and literary and artistic. The festivities begin May 2 next, when the millenial will be inaugurated by the emperor.

TO ADMIT ARIZONA.

Favorable Report Ordered on the Statehood Bill.

Washington, April 14.—At a special meeting of the House committee on territories to-day the Arizona statehood bill was ordered reported favorably to the House. The vote stood five in favor and two against. Those in the affirmative were: Republicans—Scranton, Perkins, Lefevre; Democrats—Turner and Cooper, of Texas. Those against were: Republicans—Hadley and Low. Mr. Avery was paired with Mr. Knox, and Mr. Harris was paired with Mr. Harrison.

BANKRUPTCY BILL.

It is Now in the Hands of the Senate.

Washington, April 14.—The George bill to establish a uniform system of bankruptcy, was reported to the Senate yesterday from the judiciary committee. The measure provides for volunteer bankruptcy. At the same time Mr. Mitchell, of Oregon, submitted the views of the minority of the committe in the shape of the measure agreed on by the House committee on the judiciary, with some modifications. The latter provides for voluntary and involuntary bankruptcy.

THE INDIANA IS ALL RIGHT.

Special Board Makes a Favorable Report of Its Trip.

Washington, April 14.—The special board consisting of Capt. Picking, Constructor Varney and Chief Engineer Ross, which was appointed to make the trip from Port Royal to Hampton Roads on the Indiana, and thus make the final inspection of that vessel, has submitted its report to the Navy department. The board finds that there is no weakness or defect in the hull, fittings or equipment, nor is there any defect in the machinery of the Indiana.

ESTHER CLEVELAND'S CONDITION.

Physician Says She is Doing Nicely Right Along.

Washington, April 9.—Dr. O'Reilly, the White House physician, who is attending the Cleveland children at Woodley, reports to-day that little Esther is coming along nicely, and that so far the measles has not spread to the other children.

THE GUN EXPLODED.

Narrow Escape of Officials Witnessing the Pneumatic Gun Test.

New York, April 14.—The latest test of the new pneumatic gun for firing projectiles containing high explosives, was made yesterday before Major-General Nelson A. Miles, and the board of ordinance of the United States army and navy. The gun was operated by Designer Howell B. Elwell. In the first test, five projectiles were fired in rapid succession the projectiles weighing 33 pounds, and containing about 13 pounds of explosive, being thrown a distance of from three-quarters of a mile to a mile and a quarter.

The second test did not result so favorably, for during a target trial with a dummy projectile, the gun exploded at the third shot, the officers who were standing in a semi-circle behind it, escaping only by a miracle. One man, a spectator, was badly cut by a piece of the metal. The accident was due, it was supposed, to the shattering of the wooden butt of the dummy projectile. Another test will be made.

IN WOMAN'S FAVOR.

Question of Their Admittance to M. E. Conference Settled.

Pittsburg, April 14.—The question of the admission of women delegates to the general conference of the Methodist Episcopal church has been practically settled in their favor. A letter received yesterday by Rev. C. W. Smith, D. D., editor of the Pittsburg Christian Advocate, from Rev. D. S. Monroe, D. D., of Altoona, secretary of the general conference, stated that the constitutional amendment which carries with it the fate of the proposed women delegates had received more than the requisite three-fourths vote of those present and voting in the annual conferences.

Ten of the 120 annual conferences have not yet voted, but when they do, it cannot effect a change in the present state of the movement. The vote to date is 6,937 in favor of the amendment, and 2,187 against it. This gives the required majority with 375 votes to spare.

Lyman Trumbull Ill.

Belleville, Ill., April 13.—While delivering the oration at the funeral of ex-Governor Koerner Sunday, ex-Senator Lyman Trumbull was taken ill. Considering his great age the doctors in attendance express fears as to his recovery.

TWENTY-SEVEN MURDERS.

Holmes Confesses to Taking That Many Lives.

Philadelphia, April 11.—The North American of this city to-day prints what it purports to be the confession of H. H. Holmes. Among other things it says:

"In prefacing the confession which covers in full nearly three newspaper pages, written in Holmes's own handwriting and detailing with a minuteness that is simply at times revolting, the mutilator and author of 27 murders, as he admits himself to be, states with something like pathos that he does so simply that he may obtain enough money to educate his boy. Holmes writes of his bloodcurdling atrocities with an abandon that simply appals one.

"Even now he believes that the evil spirit is the guiding genius of his destiny. He believes that he is fully under the spell of the damned, and despite the assertions to the contrary that he is receiving the attentions of a minister, and gradually becoming imbued with the spirit of forgiveness and religion, he feels that he is lost hopelessly. He even goes further. He asserts that he is changing in appearance, in figure; that his face is becoming distorted, and he sees his face assuming the look, the eyes the leer, and the very ears the exact simulitude of the picture of Satan themselves. I was born 'with the devil in me,' says he in one part. 'I could not help that I was a murderer; I was born with the evil one standing as my sponsor beside the bed where I was ushered into the world, and he has been with me since.

"The inclination to murder came to me as naturally as the inspiration to right comes to the majority. Where other hearts were touched with pity, mine filled with cruelty and where in others the feeling was to save life, I reveled in the thought of destroying them. Not only that, but I was not satisfied in taking it in the ordinary way. I sought strange, fantastical and even grotesque ways. It preyed on my mind. It gave me joy to work my murderous will and I reveled in it with the enthusiasm of an alchemist who is hot on the trail of the philosopher's stone.

"This inclination,' continues Holmes, 'came to me early in life. I remember when a mere lad my ambition was to study medicine that I might know the effects of poisonous gases; that I might fully become acquainted with their uses, and learn to be an expert at handling them.

"'I am convinced,' he declares, 'that since my imprisonment I have changed woefully and gruesomely from what I formerly was in feature and figure.'

"'If you look at my picture, when I was first taken into custody in Boston, nearly two years ago, and look at my face now, you may begin to observe something of what I mean.

"'I mean, in fact, that my features are assuming nothing more nor less than a pronounced satanical aspect; that I have become afflicted with that disease, rare but terrible, which physicians are acquainted with, but seem to have no control over.

"'That disease,' says he, 'is a malformation or distortion of the osseous parts, causing deformity so marked that in many cases men are made to assume likeness to an animal.

"'The horror of the thing did not pall on me, for it was in keeping with my nature and like a true medical student I began to study the new conditions that had arisen.

"'I believe fully that I am growing to resemble the devil; that the osseous parts of my head and face are gradually assuming that elongated shape so pronounced in what is called the degenerate head and that the similitude is most complete. In fact, so impressed am I with this, that I am convinced that I have no longer anything human in me.'

"From this on he speaks of his early experiences of boyhood days on the farm in Vermont, and the life he led until he entered college.

"It was not until after he graduated and fully equipped with the knowledge of persons and the easiest way to sever the thread of life that Holmes began his career as a murderer and mutilator.

"'When he began, he admits, he was ruthless and never once halted until he took 27 lives.

"'And I would have committed six other murders,' he added, 'had not certain things interfered.'

Possibly one of the worst, most brutal, revolting and disgusting crimes this arch mutilator ever committed was one he speaks of in a chapter devoted to his boy—the son of his first wife.

"The only explanation he offers is that he did it simply to gratify his love of mutilation.

"'It was shortly after I was married,' he says, 'and our boy was then but a youngster.

"'I called him in from the road where he was playing about like an innocent, with a lot of other lads, and took him out to a rear barn.

"'I don't know what it was that possessed me, but I took a surgical knife along with me. It was simply the craving of the murderer in me that made me make a subject of my little one.'

"He then tells how he went through the operation of mutilating his own son.

"Finished with that, Holmes felt satisfied, and did not murder his boy outright."

Pittsburg, Pa., April 14.—Insurance Inspector Gary, of the Fidelity Mutual & Life, of Philadelphia, in which Holmes's victim Pietzel was insured, is in the city. He says Holmes did not commit all the murders he confessed to. Kate Darke is in Omaha; Dr. Russell in Michigan, Rosina Van Fassant in Arkansas, and Robert Latimer in Chicago. Gertrude Conner did not die for six weeks after leaving Chicago for Iowa.

COL. INGERSOLL POSITIVE.

That McKinley Will Be Nominated at St. Louis.

Cleveland, O., April 9.—Col. Robert G. Ingersoll is of the opinion that McKinley will be nominated by the St. Louis convention. When interviewed on the Presidential outlook he said: "A few months ago I said that McKinley, Reed and Allison would be the real candidates, and that Morton had no possible chance. At that time I thought that the chances were in the order named. Since then McKinley has developed great strength and it looks as if he will be nominated on one of the early ballots, and I will be surprised if more than one ballot is necessary to make the choice. The others cannot combine against him because he is the second choice of the Reed, Allison, and Morton men. McKinley is a man of ability and integrity. He would make an excellent President and I think that under his administration good times would pay us a long visit.

"I like Reed and Allison. They are both good men, but it looks as if they will have to wait many years, but they can console themselves by thinking that a great many other men will wait with them."

BLOW TO PROHIBITION.

Surprising Supreme Court Decision at Yankton, S. D.

Yankton, S. D., April 14.—A decision of the supreme court sustaining the saloon license ordinance in face of the prohibitory state law is creating consternation in prohibition circle. An appeal was taken from the justice and circuit courts of Yankton county from a verdict against a saloonkeeper for selling liquor without a license. He contended that the city ordinance conflicted with the state constitution, which prohibits the sale of liquor. Now the supreme court sustains the ordinance.

THE WESTERN STORM.

Caused Damage to the Extent of $100,000.

Cripple Creek, Col., April 13.—The Cripple Creek district was visited by the severest and most destructive blizzard ever known yesterday. An immense amount of damage has been done, and in all probability some lives have been lost, rumors to that effect being in circulation, and general fear is entertained for the prospectors. The wind blew 60 miles an hour all day.

A score or more of the buildings in this city were blown down, and tents, signs and loose lumber were scattered over town. All the telegraph wires out of the camp are down, and no trains arrived or departed last evening. At 1:30 the Cripple Creek commission, a three-story building on Carr avenue, near the Midland depot, fell with a crash, and caught fire from an overturned stove, and was completely destroyed. The building was isolated, however, which prevented a general conflagration. The Boston cafe building was partially wrecked. A large rooming house on Warren avenue was blown down about noon, and several occupants were injured. The city is in darkness, as all the electric light wires are down. Communication is cut off with all outside points with the exception of one telegraph wire. Many store fronts have been blown in, and residences are badly damaged.

In the hills, hundreds of prospectors live in tents, and the majority of them were blown away. The damage to property throughout the camp will not fall short of $100,000.

Advices to-day state that the great snow and wind storm which brought trains to a stand still on the "divide" between Denver and Colorado Springs yesterday, on all roads except the Santa Fe, abated during the night. The railroads will be opened and trains moved to-day.

At Trinidad over two feet of snow fell during the day.

On the Raton Mountains the storm was more intense than anywhere else, the snow drifting as high as twenty feet. The telegraph wires south of Trinidad are all down. The storm extended from La Junta to Las Vegas, but was not so severe south of Baton.

On the prairies to the east the storm will benefit ranchmen, who have put in a large acreage of small grain, but it is believed the cattle perished in the blizzard.

GEN. GRANT'S BIRTHDAY.

Marquette Club in Chicago Will Make It Memorable.

Chicago, Ill., April 13.—The Marquette Club, according to a custom of three years, will honor the memory of Gen. Grant by an informal dinner on the great soldier's birthday, April 27. The dinner will be given at the Auditorium promptly at 8 o'clock. Other regular events of the club are banquets on Lincoln's birthday and Chicago day.

The speakers for the coming celebration will be President De Witt, Hermann B. Wickersham, on "The Marquette Club;" Senator Hawley, of Connecticut, on "Gen. Grant," and Congressman Barrett, of Massachusetts, on "Illinois; She Has Contributed Much to the Nation." Mr. Barrett introduced the resolutions censuring Ambassador Bayard for his objectionable speech.

Gen. Howard, of the United States army, will tell of "Grant's Generosity" and "Grant as a Friend" will be replied to by J. R. Burton, of Abilene, Kan., who is a candidate for the United States Senatorship.

This dinner is expected to be very largely attended, judging by demands for places at the tables.

THERE MAY BE SHOOTING.

Anything but a Reassuring Prospect in Northern Louisiana.

Little Rock, Ark., April 13.—The political outlook in Northern Louisiana discloses an alarming condition of affairs.

The fusion opposition to the Democrats is making a determined effort to win, and there is no use denying the fact that the Democratic ticket is in danger. Should the negroes take the advice of their leaders and go to the polls armed, there will certainly be trouble on election day, which, if once started, is bound to result in great bloodshed. The free silver men, it is well understood, will try to elect one of their own men to Congress next fall.

Democratic State Convention.

Columbus, O., April 11.—The Democratic state convention is to occur June 23. John A. McMahon is to be temporary chairman. This is the chief point settled by the party leaders who were gathered here on Thursday and Friday.

Markets and Crops.

THE TRADE SITUATION.

Demand Stationary and Prices at the Lowest Notch.

New York, April 11.—R. G. Dun & Co.'s weekly review says: The volume of business has not on the whole increased, nor have prices appreciably advanced since April 1, when the range for all commodities was the lowest ever known in this country. Breadstuffs and iron products have risen slightly, but some other articles have declined, and the root of the matter is that demand for consumption is still below expectations. The number of hands employed has been slightly lessened by strikes in some places and by stoppage or reduction of force in others, but the change during the past week has not been relatively important. The weather has not favored active distribution of spring goods.

The injury done to winter wheat by storms and frosts at the west would appear from reports of state officers to have been considerable. Remarkably low estimates of condition are published by some state authorities, and while this may be the customary exaggeration, there has evidently been much actual loss, which tends at present to lessen purchases of farmers and of dealers in farming districts. But the reports are not more gloomy than a year ago, and the quantity of wheat which has come from farms since August 1 has been 163,781,594 bushels, against 129,076,460 at the same date last year.

Western receipts for the week are about 60 per cent. larger than last year, and for two weeks about 50 per cent., while Atlantic exports, flour included, have been for the week only 909,055 bushels against 10,759,006 last year, a decrease of nearly half.

These conditions tend to check the advance which reached 3 cents but was followed by a reaction of 1 cent. Corn rose 2¾c. with wheat and on account of small stocks. Cotton has not changed.

Wool is weaker, with sales for the week only 2,232,600 pounds at the three chief markets, the smallest for many years. Prices were lower except for fine washed fleece and manufacturers are rapidly reducing production. There is fair demand in the dress goods branch, especially due to the important steps by customs officers to stop undervaluations, but it is estimated that not 40 per cent. of the men's wear machinery is at work. There have also been cotton mills stopping or reducing the time this week. Further reductions in prints to the lowest point ever touched failed to increase the demand materially.

Failures for the past week have been 209 in the United States, against 207 last year, and 63 in Canada, against 27 last year.

New York, April 11.—Bradstreet's financial review says: During the early part of the week the New York stock market, while dull and professional in the character of the trading, displayed a decided tone of strength. For the last few days however, its inactivity was marked by an unsettled and declining disposition, though on Friday covering of shares gave a firmer tone. The first demonstrations would seem to be a continuance of the effort, referred to last week, on the part of speculative interests to discount a possible improvement in the general trade situation coinciding with the beginning of the spring season. This was, at the time, regarded as somewhat premature, and the absence of public support or foreign participation would have necessarily arrested the further progress of the market before very long.

It would seem, however, that the bearish tendencies which again asserted themselves derived any positive character they may have displayed from the situation at Washington in regard to the Cuban question. The "street," in fact, appeared to disregard the adoption of the concurrent resolutions favoring recognition of Cuban belligerency. The acceptance by the House of Representatives of the Senate's form of this measure on last Monday was, indeed, almost without any effect on the stock market.

Cure Consumption and lung troubles

TO THE EDITOR:—I have a reliable remedy for Consumption and all Lung Diseases; also for Loss of Flesh and all Conditions of Wasting. By its timely use thousands of hopeless cases have been PERMANENTLY CURED. So proof-positive am I of its power, that to increase its usefulness and make known its great merits, I propose to SEND TWO BOTTLES FREE to any reader who will write me their Express and Postoffice address. Sincerely,

T. A. SLOCUM, M.C.,
183 Pearl St., New York.

When writing the Doctor, please state you read his letter in this paper and oblige—EDS BEE.

Radway's Pills

Purely vegetable, mild and reliable. Cause perfect Digestion, complete absorption, and healthful regularity.

SICK HEADACHE.

For the cure of all disorders of the Stomach, Liver, Bowels, Kidneys, Bladder, Female Irregularities, Sick Headache, Biliousness, Constipation, Piles and all derangements of the Internal Viscera. 25 cts. a box. At Druggists, or by mail. RADWAY & CO., New York.

APRIL CROP REPORT.

Facts for Farmers to Study Concerning the Season's Prospects.

Washington, April 13.—The United States Department of Agriculture report on the condition of winter grain and health of live stock April 1, 1896, issued to-day says: Consolidated reports from townships, county and state correspondents show a condition of winter wheat in nine leading states as follows: Pennsylvania, 64; Ohio, 78; Michigan, 82; Indiana, 77; Kentucky, 70; Illinois, 81; Missouri, 75; Kansas, 88; California, 91. Average for the entire country, 77.1; last year, 81.4, and 86.7 in 1894.

The average condition of rye for the country is 82.9. Dry weather at seeding largely retarded or prevented germinating. Throughout the winter grain producing region the winter covering of snow was exceptionally scanty. Rye suffered in most states less than wheat. Drouth in early winter and alternate freezing and thawing afterward, injured the crop East of the Mississippi. In Nebraska, Kansas and westeward there was less winter killing than usual, owing to the mild season, and present conditions are reported favorable.

Condition of horses 97.6; cattle, 98; sheep, 98.5; swine, 93.3, being an improvement in every case as compared with last year's figures. Two per cent of horses died from disease. The loss of swine was heaviest in the important Mississippi river states: Iowa, Illinois and Missouri all reporting 20 per cent or over.

Weekly Crop Bulletin.

Washington, April 8.—The weather bureau in its weekly crop bulletin to-day says:

"Over the central and northern portions of the country the season is generally from two to three weeks late, in consequence of which farm work has been correspondingly delayed.

"The condition of winter wheat is reported as poor in Virginia and Ohio, and fair in Illinois and Kentucky, but more favorable reports are received from Arkansas and New York.

"In South Dakota, spring wheat seeding is becoming general, and in Nebraska and Iowa seeding is nearly completed.

"Oat seeding is generally well advanced in the states of the central valleys, and in the Southern states this crop is reported as doing well."

REVIEW OF WEEK'S BUSINESS.

OFFICE OF THE TOLEDO BLADE,
Toledo, O., April 14, 1896.

The following shows the changes in government bonds during the past week:

	April 14.	April 7.
U. S. 4's (new), coupons	117	116¾
U. S. 4's (new), registered	117	116
U. S. 5's, coupons	113½	113½
U. S. 5's, registered	113½	113½
U. S. 4's, coupons	109	109½
U. S. 4's, registered	108¾	108¾
U. S. 2's, registered	95	95
Pacific 6's of '95	103	102½

Condition of the Grain Trade at the Close To-Day.

Wheat opened slow to-day. Prices were a small fraction higher at the opening on ½d higher cables and crop damage reports from some of the winter wheat states, but the reports were not verified as correct, and after prices had touched a point ½c above yesterday's close there was an easing off. For a time there were quick changes, but the tendency toward the close was downward. Trade was of good proportions.

Corn held fairly steady, the variation in prices during the day being but ¼c. Trade was not large. At Chicago May corn opened at 30¾c, fell to 30c, and closed at all you will have to pay is the freight from St. Paul to your nearest freight point.

FOR $1.15

For $1.15 we will send the Weekly Blade one year and three pounds of either one of the above corns, POSTPAID.

NOTE—If you order by freight be careful to give your freight office.

Special Notice to Those Who Have Recently Renewed Their Subscriptions to The Weekly Blade.

If you desire any of this seed corn, we would recommend that your remittance be made as stated above, and let us extend your subscription another full year. In case you do not wish to extend so far in advance, we will send you corn on the following terms:

One bushel of either variety, including sack, and delivery on board cars (no paying freight), for $1.50; three pounds of either, postpaid by mail, for 80 cents.

Address all orders to THE BLADE, Toledo, Ohio.

AN OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL OUR SUBSCRIBERS

To Secure Seed Stock of Two New

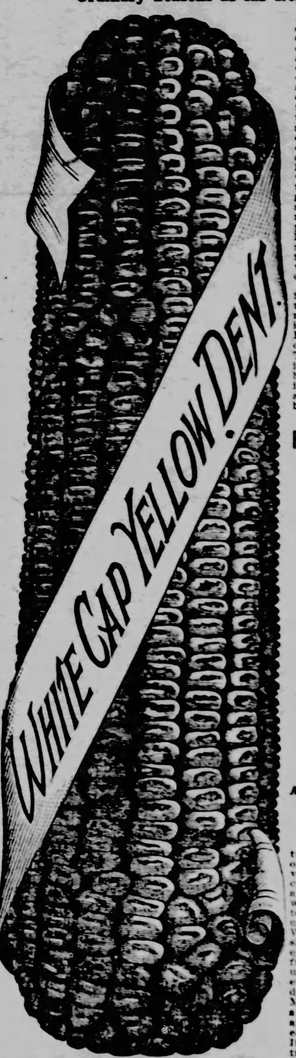
HEAVY YIELDING FIELD CORNS

For the benefit of our subscribers we have made arrangements to distribute several hundred bushels of the following new varieties.

Both these Corns are being sold at $1 75 per bushel, Retail
Read Our Offer Below.

WHITE CAP YELLOW DENT.

A Variety for the Middle, Southern and Eastern States. Will Ripen in Ordinary Seasons as far North as Central Minnesota.



This new variety of Corn was introduced by one of the largest corn growers in the state of Ohio. It combines more solid merit than any corn ever offered, being suitable for all climates and soils, and yet grows large ears and matures early. The ear grows as large as Leaming corn, and is from seven to ten days earlier, and on poor, thin soil, will yield thirty per cent more corn. It will out-yield and out-shell the Leaming. Its great merit lies in the fact that it is as natural a yielder as weeds, grows strong, rank and quick, and will produce more corn on poor, thin soil than any kind now in cultivation. After growing different varieties of merit, S. P. Todd, of Huron Co., Ohio, the largest breeder of Chester White Hogs in the world, says: "White Cap Yellow Dent beats them all. It is sure to yield me a crop of good, sound corn. It makes more bone and strength than any other corn, and I will grow no other sort." Mr. Todd, who took $2,175 in prizes at the World's Fair on his hogs, is a large grower of corn, and his recommend on this corn is honest and reliable. One hundred farmers in Huron county, expert corn growers, will confirm all that can be said about this corn.

Grown in a section with over sixty varieties, it out-yielded all other kinds, and withstood the drouth much better. In fact, in the driest weather, when all other varieties showed no dead tassels could be seen, while on Leaming, Early Butler, Extra Early Huron, Golden Beauty and other early sorts, dead tassels could be found, caused by the hot, burning sun. This corn will be appreciated by those living in drouth sections and by those farmers who have poor, thin soil, while on strong, rich soil it has no superior. The tip end of the grains are white, the inside yellow, making it a beautiful color.

Reasons Why You Should Grow the White Cap Yellow Dent.

1—It is as natural a yielder as weeds.
2—It yields large crops on poor, thin soil.
3—The ears are large, handsome and well filled.
4—It is sure to mature in from 90 to 95 days.
5—It husks easy and shells easy.
6—It commands the highest market price.
7—It will grow more bushels on poor, thin soil than any other kind in the world.
8—It stands the drought better than sixty other varieties grown in the same country.
9—It has a large number of rows on the cob, making a great yielder.
10—It will out-shell and out-yield the Leaming corn.
11—It grows its fodder strong, rank and quick, from 7 to 8 feet high.

MINNESOTA KING.

A New Half Dent. A splendid Yellow Corn for the Middle, Northern and Western States.

This corn, after a thorough test the past two years, we now offer as the best variety of its kind for the Northern states. There are varieties that under favorable seasons and circumstances will yield as much, but year in and year out there is, we believe, no sort that will do as well as this. It is a strong grower, to possess a faculty of growing right along and under conditions that would ruin most varieties. We know of many good reasons why this should be so, but not only is it our own experience, but we have received like testimony from hundreds to whom we have sold it the universal expression being for ability to endure extremes of heat and cold, flood and drought it has no